THE TWEMLOWS

* * *

THEIR WIVES AND THEIR HOMES.

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ERRATA.

P. 5—Lines 16 and 17, for Kerminchen read Kermincham.

P. 10—Line 3, after the words "under it," put a comma instead of a full stop.

P. 14a.—Large Pedigree. Read, Mary Twemlow, wife of George Twemlow, of Arclyd, bap. 14th March 1701, buried 14th October 1752, aged 51. See p. 75, note 5.

P. 12—Note 4, for Hinchcliffe, read Hinchliffe.

P. 23—Line 17, for "John Twemlowe, yeoman," read John Twemlowe, of Betchton, yeoman.

P. 31—Line 33, for Willmot, read Wilmot.

P. 39—5th line from the bottom, for "movement," read "mouvement."

P. 39—3rd line from the bottom, for "demarches" read "démarches."

P. 50—Note 1, for "Hinchcliffe," read Hinchliffe."

P. 75—9th line from the bottom, for "Parratt's" read "Parratts."

P. 83—Line 22, for "appears" read "appear."

P. 83—Sixth line from the bottom, for "Chester" read "Cheshire."

P. 99—Line 12, for "Katherine" read "Katharine."

P. 119—Fifth line from the bottom, for "their" read "these."

P. 119—Second line from the bottom, between "John Lane" and "Bentley" insert "of."

P. 122—At the beginning of line 1 insert the figure "6."

P. 150—Line 12, for "has" read "had"

P. 150—Line 16, for "Hinchcliffe" read "Hinchliffe."

P. 155—Line 17, for "Twemlow's" read "Twemlows."

P. 162—The word at the S.W. corner of the house plan is meant to be "acacia."

P. 165—Tenth line from the bottom, for "Preston's" read "Prestons."

P. 167—Line 4, for "Marrey's" read "Marreys."

P. 171—Note 3, line 2, for "in No. 8" read "to No. 8."

P. 172—Line 11, for "Broomfield" read "Broom Field."

P. 175—Line 18, insert at the beginning, "is given."

P. 205—Line 24, for "devises" read "devisees."

P. 208—Tenth line from the bottom, for "Francis" read "Frances."

P. 229—Line 19, for "Bresey" read "Brescy."

THE TWEMLOWS

Their Wives and Their Homes

FROM ORIGINAL RECORDS

BY

FRANCIS RANDLE TWEMLOW, D.S.O., F.S.A., B.A.
OF PEATSWOOD, CO. STAFFORD.

S. 192 Twem

1910

WOLVERHAMPTON:
WHITEHEAD BROTHERS, ST. JOHN'S SQUARE.

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DEDICATION.

TO EVELYN DOROTHY, MY ONLY CHILD,
THIS ACCOUNT OF HER EVOLUTION,
IN THE COMPILING OF WHICH THE PASTE BRUSH
AND SCISSORS
HAVE HAD A LARGER SHARE THAN THE PEN,
IS AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.

INTRODUCTION.

THE OBJECT OF THIS BOOK, as the dedication explains, is the instruction of my child in the history of her ancestors. It has required more than five years of pretty constant labour and research, and has led me much further afield than I expected or intended at the outset. Much that is set down in it may appear immaterial and trivial; but I have hesitated to use the pruning hook, because with lapse of time trivial matters become of interest. If our forefathers of two or three hundred years ago had written full accounts of their daily life, and had gone into domestic details, what interesting reading it would be now! But they did not usually do so; and in consequence we are much in the dark about them, and can only give a bald epitome of their proceedings culled from deeds and wills, public records and parish registers.

This book is intended in the first instance for my daughter; and it may also be of some interest to members and friends of our family. Whether anyone beyond that limited circle will attempt to read it, is doubtful. It does not tell of heroes or men of genius, or even of attractive or amusing scamps. The Twemlows for the most part seem to have been fair specimens of average Englishmen, conscientious, prudent, and free from excesses of all kinds. Their surroundings have been provincial; for some seven centuries they have had their roots in Sandbach parish, from which they have seldom wandered far. Their wives, with a few exceptions of modern date, have all come from the same district. Any interest which the book may be found to possess for the general reader must be due to the representative character of the people whom it attempts to describe. They are, as it were, a sample taken from the bulk, and in the course of the narrative we see how they stood in relation to the institutions and movements of bygone centuries, and how they were affected by political and economic changes.

In the main, it seems that these good people tried to do their duty in their generation; and if this humble record should induce others to do likewise, it will not have been written in vain.

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I.—Printed Books.

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2. Earwaker's "East Cheshire," 1878.
3. Earwaker's "Sandbach," 1890.
4. Hall's "Nantwich," 1883.
5. Hinchliffe's "Barthomley," 1856.
6. Hemingway's "Chester," 1831.
7. Head's "Congleton," 1887.
8. "Streets and Lanes of a City," by "Amy Dutton" (Frances M. Wilbraham), 1871.
9. Plot's "Staffordshire," 1686.
10. Stebbing Shaw's "Staffordshire."
11. Erdeswick's "Staffordshire," Edited by Dr. Harwood. Edition of 1844.
12. Eyton's "Staffordshire Domesday Tables," 1881.
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14. Ward's "Stoke-on-Trent," 1843.
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16. Rhead's "Staffordshire Pots and Potters," 1906.
17. Salt's "Standon," 1888.
18. Collections of the William Salt Archæological Society, Stafford.
19. Aikin's "Manchester and District round," 1795.
20. Lee's "Market Drayton," 1861.
21. Lord Mahon's "History of England, 1713-83," Fifth Edition 1858.
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24. "The Annual Register," from 1758.
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27. Blackstone's "Commentaries," 15th Edition 1809.
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30. Garnier's "History of the English Landed Interest," 1892.
31. Jesse Collings' "Land Reform," 1906.
32. Captain Mahan's "Life of Nelson," 1897.
33. Cary's "New Itinerary of the Roads of England and Wales," 1798.
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35. Encyclopædia Britannica of 1885, Ninth Edition 1898.
36. Agnew's "French Protestant Exiles."

II.—Manuscripts.

1. Harleian, Cottonian, and other MSS. at the British Museum.
2. Subsidy Rolls, Recognizance Rolls, Inquests post mortem, Cheshire Docket Book, &c., at the Public Record Office, Chancery Lane.
3. Act Books at the Bishop's Registry at Lichfield.
4. Wills at the Probate Registries at Somerset House, Chester, Lichfield, and Gloucester; also in the Bishop's Registry at Chester.
5. MSS. relating to the Manor of Sandbach in the Grosvenor Library at Chester, and in the Chetham Library at Manchester. Also the Court rolls of Betchton Manor kept by Mr. Wakefield of Sandbach, the present seneschal.
6. Private papers belonging to Mr. Baker Wilbraham, Rode Hall.
   ,, Wilbraham, Delamere House.
   ,, Egerton Leigh, Jodrell Hall.
   ,, Broughton, Tunstall Hall.
   Sir Philip Chetwode, Oakley Hall.
   The Author, Peatswood.
   Rev. Sir George Boughey, Aqualate.
7. The Parish Registers of Sandbach, Warmingham (or Warmincham) Astbury, Lawton, Brereton, Wolstanton, Nantwich, Audley, Market Drayton, Moreton Say, Prestbury, and others.
8. Ordination papers and transcripts of Registers at the Bishop's Registry at Chester.
9. A manuscript from the Vatican Library at Rome.
10. Two large folio manuscript volumes compiled by William Kelsall of Hall-o'-Wood, Balterley, (born 1641) about the year 1703. They give much information about the families in and around Audley Parish. They are at Aqualate.

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When not otherwise stated, the dates given follow the new style, as regards the year beginning on 1st January, and not on 25th March. For instance 2nd February 1645-6 would be called 2nd February 1646.

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THE FAMILY.

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Wincham Brook
Lower Peover
Red Brook
Chelford
Henbury cum Pexal
MACCLESFIELD
Pyegreave
Peover Superior
Crow Brook
Peover Eye
Bradshaw Brook
Capesthorne Hall
Henbury Hall
Thornycroft Hall
Sutton
KING STREET
Rudheath
Siddington
Sutton Reservoir
Jodrell Hall
TUMULI
Redlion Brook
Marton Brook
Gawsworth
Goostrey cum Burnshaw
Byley
Cranage
Hermitage
Twemlow Hall
Marton
Kermincham Hall
Crewton Hall
River Dane
Holmes Chapel
Midge Brook
North Rode
MACCLESFIELD CANAL
Bosley
Bosley Reservoir
River Croco
Middlewich
Davenport
Somerford Hall
River Dane
Sandersons Brook
Moores barrow Hall
KINDERTON
Brereton cum Smethwick
Rushton Spencer
Bradwall Hall
Taxmere Fm.
Workhouse
Site of The Brook House
Arclyd
Arclyd Green
CONGLETON
Astbury
CANAL
Brickhouses
Warmingham or Warmincham
Sandbach
The Hill
Drumber Farm
Smallwood
Moreton Hall
Elmhurst
Lightly Hill
Vicarage
Dean Hill
Biddulph
Ruyard Reservoir
Wheelock
TRENT & MERSEY CANAL
Belchton House
Lynnhouse Fm.
Moreton Old Hall
Little Hassall
Old House Green
Odd Rode
Horton
Roughwood Farm
Rode Hall
Crowborough
Church Coppenhall
Hassall
Mow Cop
Manor House
Church Lawton
Brieryhurst
Haslington
Alsager
CREWE
Hardings Wood
Eardleyend
Barthomley
TUNSTALL
Audley
Ravens Lane
Balterley
Wybunbury
Shraley House
Doddlespool Hall
Halmerend Hall
BURSLEM
Betley Hall
Betley Court
Betley
Craddocks Moss
Wolstanton
HANLEY
Cheerley Brook
Grubber's Hill
Shelton
Hatherton
Doddington
HEIGHLEY CASTLE
Grubber's Ash
NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME
STOKE UPON TRENT
Keele
Madeley
LONGTON
Caverswall
Hanford
TRENT & MERSEY CANAL
Woore
Blurton
Whitmore
Trentham
Norton in Hales
Hungersheath
Maer
River Trent
Swinchurch
Oakley Hall
Mucklestone
Ashley
Weston Hall
Weston's Old House
Tunstall Hall
Loggerheads
BATTLE OF BLOREHEATH A.D. 1459
Standon
Almington
Market Drayton
Hales
Stone
TYRLEY CASTLE
Peatswood
Broughton
Charnes Hall
Coal Brook
Meece Brook
The Fouralls
Oldsprings
SHROPSHIRE UNION CANAL
River Sow
Eccleshall
Scale of Miles
½ ¼ 0 1 2 3
Stanford's Geogl Estabt London

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CHAPTER I.

Etymology of the word; Twemlow Township in Cheshire, funeral mounds there. Early history of the Twemlows of Twemlow, from Williamson, Ormerod, and Earwaker, Randle Holme's pedigree of 1615, ending with the heiress Katherine, temp. Henry IV. Different ways of spelling the name; various occurrences of it in charters, &c., including a conveyance by Thomas de Twemlow to Hugh de Knutsford, dated 1395, with seal. Thomas Twemlow, Rector of Tilston, 1454-97, and of Astbury, 1476-97. Reasons for supposing that the Twemlows, living at Betchton and elsewhere in the 16th century, were younger branches of the Twemlows of Twemlow. Evidence of the Christian names, Distribution of the family; modern spelling of names when adopted. Ward on local surnames.

DERIVATION AND EARLY OCCURRENCES OF THE NAME "TWEMLOW."

A LEARNED SCHOLAR[1] says that the word "Twemlow" is pure Anglo-Saxon. Low—HLŒW, originally the grave of a chief, a mound, or barrow, later used of natural hills.

Twem–twain–two, in Anglo-Saxon, TWEGEN. So that the name means two mounds or hills.

"Low" is a common termination for place names, as in Taplow, Brinklow, and Longslow. TWEM or TWAM also occurs in the name TWAMBROOK, TWEMBROOK, TWENBROOK, or TWENEBROKIS, near Northwich.

There is a "Twemlows" in Shropshire, between Sandford and Whitchurch, which in 1640[2] was the home of Samuel Sandford. I have not found any barrow there, but there are two near it, one at Sandford and one at Willaston.

It is not, however, this place, but Twemlow in Cheshire, which has given its name to a clan.

This township lies between Holmes Chapel and Chelford, on the Crewe and Manchester Railway. Twemlow Hall stands on the eastern side of the line, close to the northern end of the brick viaduct which crosses the valley of the river Dane.

The only barrows at present existing in the township are situated about a mile and a half from the Hall, in the direction of Manchester. In 1817, when Ormerod wrote his history of Cheshire, there were five of them. He says: [3]"They are nearly equidistant, and stretch along the banks of a small brook for about a quarter of a mile; the present seat of Mr. Egerton Leigh standing between the second and third; the fifth is unusually large in its dimensions."

1. Rev. T. W. Norwood, of Wrenbury, external instructor, by correspondence, in Anglo-Saxon and Early English, to the University of Cambridge.
2. Marriage settlement of Thomas Church and Margaret Higgins (at Peatswood).
3. Ormerod's Cheshire, 2nd Edn. Vol. III., p. 3.

The brook is the "Red Lion" brook, and it runs in a north-westerly direction to join the Weaver at Northwich. The line of Tumuli was parallel to it, two of the mounds being on the north-west side of Mr. Egerton Leigh's house, and three on the south-east of it. The two former have now disappeared, and also the one nearest to the house on the other side. The only two now remaining are those which Ormerod called the fourth and fifth. The fourth was opened some years ago, a small funeral urn being found in it which soon crumbled away[1]; it is sandy and full of rabbit burrows.

The fifth mound is, as Ormerod says, much larger and of considerable circumference. It is not very high, and has been fenced in and planted.

Speaking generally, the township of Twemlow appears to have been held during the 13th and 14th centuries by a family named after it, the abbots of St. Werburgh's at Chester and of Vale Royal having paramount rights over it during the latter half of the time.

But about the beginning of the reign of Henry VI. the elder branch of this family became extinct in the male line; and an heiress named Katherine, the daughter of John de Twemlow, who married Hugh de Knutsford about the time of Henry IV., carried the estate into her husband's family, with whom it remained for more than a hundred years.

In the sixteenth century it was divided between two co-heiresses, Mary de Knutsford, who married Edward Booth, and her sister Ellen, who became the wife of Roger Jodrell. The Booths had Twemlow Hall, and the Jodrells built a new house at the other end of the township. In 1778 the Jodrell share was brought by an heiress into Mr. Egerton Leigh's family.[2] Mr. Leigh tells me that the old Jodrell house stood at the top end of his kitchen garden. Nothing remains of it, but portions of the stables and farm buildings and an old dovecote still exist. The present house, which during the nineteenth century received the name of "Jodrell Hall," has the date 1779 on a lead spout-head, and it is the work of four generations of Egerton Leighs. The Booth share of the township, about 800 acres and including Twemlow Hall, was added to Mr. Leigh's property about 1862.[3] I now propose to go into the earlier history of Twemlow and the Twemlow family, rather more in detail.

Dr. Edward Williamson, who is described in Ormerod (Vol. II., p. 751) as "One of the most laborious, and certainly the most intelligent of the Cheshire collectors," says, in his "Villare Cestriense,"[4] written about 1700, under the heading "Twamlowe": "This gave name to and was the inheritance of the Twamlowes from very near the Conquest; for Lidulph de Twamlowe was sheriff of Cheshire in King Richard the First's time; whose family continued immediate lords of this place till fourteenth Edward I., when Thomas de Twamlowe held of the Prior of St. John of Jerusalem two acres of land and the fourth part of four hundred acres of wood in Twamlowe; who gave to Richard de Swettenham all his arable land with the Capital messuage and half of his waste and wood to perform the

1. Mr. Leigh's information.
2. Ormerod, Vol. III., 787.
3. Particulars of Sale, at Peatswood.
4. Brit. Museum M.S.S. 6031.

usual service, which was twelve pence a year, paying suit twice a year to their court, and giving the third part of all their goods on the premises at their deaths under the name of an Obitus; and the other half he gave to the abbey of Vale Royal.[1] This Thomas by the name of Thomas son of Brun de Twamlowe gave to Richard de Ermitage, clerk, for ten markes in hand, a fourth part of all the woods in Twamlowe, except the Holt near his house, for a pair of white gloves on St. Michael's day in the Fair of Middlewich yearly. And 27 Edward I., the King gave to the abbey of Vale Royal the whole land of Twamlowe which William de Hawarde lately sold to him, with all its appurtenances, &c. In this place the abbey of Vale Royal had free warren granted in Edward the First's time; under the abbots of which place the Hardings (or Hardinkes) lineally descended from Reginald le Brun of Twamlowe were lords of this place, till by Katherine, daughter and heir of John[2] de Harding, it came in Henry the Fourth's reign[3] to Hugh de Knutsford."

In Ormerod's History of Cheshire, 2nd Edition, Vol. III., p. 135, is to be found the following account of Twemlowe. The words in brackets are not in the First Edition, but are interpolations by Helsby the later editor:—

"This township appears to have [been held under the lords of Kermincham, but previously] belonged, shortly after the Conquest, to the CROXTONS, a powerful and widely spreading family, of whom an ample account will be found under the head of the township from which they first received their name.[4] Lidulph, or Liulph, representative of this family in the reigns of Richard I., John, and Henry III., during which he discharged the office of sheriff, appears in some charters under the local designation of "de Twemlowe." Ranulph, younger brother of Liulph, was father of Henry de Crannach, and of Reginald le Brun who purchased lands here, and in one charter to St. Werburgh's Abbey (Harl. M.S.S., 1965, 34 b.), is called Reginald de Tamlawe.[5] The township, or the greater part of it, passed by grants from his sons to the abbeys of St. Werburgh and Vale Royal.

Thomas, the eldest son, gave lands here to the first of these abbeys; also other lands, held of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, to Richard de Swettenham; other lands to his kinsman, Richard de Ermitage; and another portion to the abbey of Vale Royal.

In the foundation charter of that abbey, the king also confirms to it lands in Twemlowe given him by this Thomas; other lands here given him by Thomas Bathel; and a third estate, which had been lately purchased from William Hawarden [or Hawerthin *query alias* Hawrding], probably a son of Harding le Brun, one of the younger brothers of Thomas before mentioned [and whose widow, Isabel de Hawerthin, sued the abbot, 10 Edward I., for dower of "a moiety of the town of Thuemelowe," Pl. Ro.].

1. The authority for this statement is in the Public Record Office (Chancery Inq. Misc. File 50, No. 8), which is set out in Appendix A. ii. of this book.
2. This John Harding of Twemlow was one of the coroners of Northwich and four vills. William Salt collections, Vol. XVI., first series, p. 48.
3. Mr. Leigh's deed hereafter mentioned seems to show that John de Twemlowe was living in 1423, 1st Hen. VI.
4. See Ormerod, 2nd Edn., Vol. III., p. 210.
5. See Appendix A. i.

The estate which the abbey of St. Werburgh held here passed, after the dissolution, to the Brookes of Norton; and, as appeared by Inq. p.m. 11th Elizabeth was held by Richard Brooke, Esq., of the Queen, as of her manor of East Greenwich, val. per annum, £VII Os. IIIId. (£7 os. 4d.).

The estate of the abbey of Vale Royal was held, under the abbot, by a family which bore the local name, and [was most likely descended in the male line from the Croxtons, having, it is conjectured, acquired the mesne manor, or some portion of it, by an early subinfeudation of the Croxtons in favour of one of their younger issue, whose services in respect of it would pass with the grant of the paramount lordship to the abbot and convent before-mentioned. This family] was most probably the parent stock of the several branches of the Twemlowes [settled in Staffordshire,[1] and elsewhere, and also] yet remaining in the neighbouring townships. It is deduced by Booth from Richard de Twemlowe, and by Williamson from Harding le Brun,[2] both of whom were sons of Reginald le Brun before-mentioned; and it terminated in the direct line, temp. Henry IV., in Katherine, daughter of John de Twemlowe and wife of Hugh de Knutsford."

Earwaker's account in his history of Sandbach, under "Twemlow Township," differs somewhat from the above. He makes Reginald le Brun, or Reginald de Twemlow, the son of Lidulph de Twemlow, the sheriff, whereas Ormerod and Booth make him the son of Lidulph's brother Randle. He also makes Katherine, the heiress, fourth in descent from Reginald le Brun, instead of fifth, leaving out altogether either the second Richard or the first John, of Booth's pedigree. It seems most likely that Ormerod and Booth are right; and that Earwaker has confused Lidulph, the sheriff, with his father, Lidulph de Croxton, and has also confused the Johns and Richards in the 14th century. The omission of a link in the pedigree makes the number of years allowed for a generation (about 40), improbably large.

This is what Earwaker says: "This township is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, but at an early period was held by the Croxtons, who are not infrequently described as "de Twemlow." Lidulph de Twemlow, who was sheriff of Cheshire in the early part of the 13th century, had sons, Henry and Reginald, of whom the former is considered to be the founder of the Cranage family, and the latter was known as Reginald Brun or Reginald de Twemlow. He had two sons,—Thomas, generally described as "Thomas, son of Reginald Brun," and Richard, usually called "Richard Harding de Twemlow." Both these sons gave a large portion of their lands in this township to the abbeys of Vale Royal and St. Werburgh at Chester, as appears from the chartularies of these two abbeys, and many documents relating to them. The lands here held by the abbey of St. Werburgh passed after the dissolution of the monasteries by Letters Patent, dated 24th February 1552-3, into the possession of Richard Brooke of Norton, Esq., and are referred to in his Inquisition post mortem taken in 1570, being held of the Queen as of her manor of East Greenwich, and being then worth £7 os. 8d. per annum.

1. See Note 5, p. 12.
2. I cannot find that Williamson says this. His words are quoted above, and are that the Hardings were "lineally descended from Reginald le Brun of Twamlowe." Ormerod may be referring to some other part of Williamson's Works.

The other estate held by the Hardings (who frequently bore the local name of Twemlow), appears to have been the greater part of the township, and is sometimes called "The Manor of Twemlow." It was held under the adjacent manor of Kermincham, as shown by the following early deeds without date. Warine, lord of Croxton and Twemlow, granted to Reginald Brun for his homage and service one half of the vill of Twemlow. Richard, lord of Croxton, warrants to Thomas, son of Reginald Brun, his heirs and assigns for ever, the half vill of Twemlow, which[1] Warine, lord of Croxton, his father, sold to the said Reginald, free from suit at the court of the Hundred of Northwich, and suit at the court of Kermincham, at the yearly rent of one halfpenny. By another deed Reginald Brun grants to Richard Harding, his son, certain lands (duly named) in Twemlow; and again, Thomas, son of Reginald, releases to the said Richard Harding, his brother, all the services which he owed for the fourth part of the vill of Twemlow, and his other lands there, except a rental of 6d. and suit at the court of Kermincham. In 1390, John Harding, grandson of the said Richard, was released from all suit and service at the court of Kerminchen, and the rent of 6d., issuing out of his lands in Twemlow, Blackden, Goostrey, and Kerminchen, except the rent of one red rose when demanded.

This John Harding, or John de Twemlow (as he is sometimes called), had a daughter and heiress, Katherine, who married Hugh de Knottesford, and so carried these lands into that family."

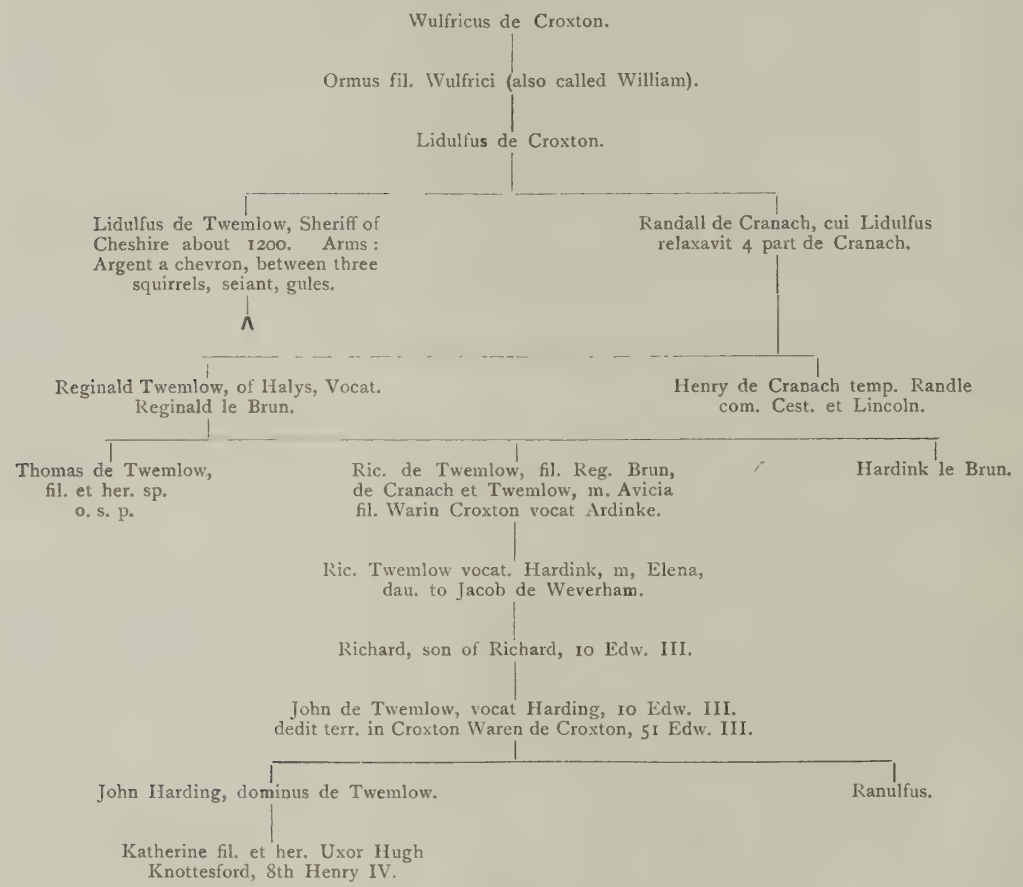
The following pedigree of the early Twemlow family is founded on one drawn by Randle Holme in 1615, from notes supplied by John Booth of Twemlow, the eminent antiquary (b. 1584, d. 1659), Harl. M.S.S, 2119, p. 211. John Booth was himself a descendant of Katherine de Twemlowe, through his great grandmother Mary de Knutsford (see Ormerod, Vol. III., p. 137).

This pedigree gives all the generations from Wulfric de Croxton to Katherine who married Hugh de Knutsford in Henry IV.'s reign, which I have not been able to find elsewhere. Ormerod has however supplied some corrections from other sources, and these I have adopted. (See Ormerod, 2nd Edn., Vol. II., p. 205, and Vol. III., p.p. 127 and 210.)

1. See Appendix A. i.

HARLEIAN M.S.S. 2119, p. 211.

PEDIGREE DRAWN BY JOHN BOOTH, OF TWEMLOW, AND COPIED BY RANDLE HOLME IN 1615, APPROVED BY RICHARD ST. GEORGE, NORROY KING OF ARMS.


Wulfricus de Croxton.
Ormus fil. Wulfrici (also called William).
Lidulfus de Croxton.
Lidulfus de Twemlow, Sheriff of Cheshire about 1200. Arms: Argent a chevron, between three squirrels, seiant, gules.
Randall de Cranach, cui Lidulfus relaxavit 4 part de Cranach.
Reginald Twemlow, of Halys, Vocat. Reginald le Brun.
Henry de Cranach temp. Randle com. Cest. et Lincoln.
Thomas de Twemlow, fil. et her. sp. o. s. p.
Ric. de Twemlow, fil. Reg. Brun, de Cranach et Twemlow, m. Avicia fil. Warin Croxton vocat Ardinke.
Hardink le Brun.
Ric. Twemlow vocat. Hardink, m, Elena, dau. to Jacob de Weverham.
Richard, son of Richard, 10 Edw. III.
John de Twemlow, vocat Harding, 10 Edw. III. dedit terr. in Croxton Waren de Croxton, 51 Edw. III.
John Harding, dominus de Twemlow.
Ranulfus.
Katherine fil. et her. Uxor Hugh Knottesford, 8th Henry IV.

The same manuscript, f. 223, has the Croxton or Twemlow pedigree drawn out with Coats of Arms.

Lidulf de Twemlow has "Argent a chevron between three squirrels sejant gules."

His brother Randle has "Argent, three bucks heads caboshed sable, over all a bendlet (? sable)."

This is signed and approved by Richard St. George, Norroy, 1615.

The word Twemlow has been spelt in many different ways—Tamlawe, Tuamlawa, Thuemelowe, Thwemlowe, Thomlowe, Twomlowe, and Twamley, are some of them. There is still a tendency in Cheshire to pronounce it "Twomler." In addition to the instances which have been quoted, it occurs in the following documents:—

I. In the 13th century, Lidulph de Twamlowe is one of the witnesses of the charters whereby, between 1200 and 1202, Earl Randle gave certain privileges to the citizens of Chester. (Canon Morris' history of Chester in Plantagenet and Tudor Times, p. 482). A charter of Warin de Croxton, dated about 1230, is given in Appendix A. i., and an inquiry into the lands held by Thomas de Twemlowe, dated 19th Edward I. (1291), is at the Public Record Office in London; and has been already referred to. See Appendix A. ii.

II. In the 14th century it occurs not unfrequently.

Richard de Twomlowe was ordained subdeacon at Lilleshall in March, 1361; deacon at Tarvin in June, 1362, and priest at Haywood in the following January, by Bishop Robert de Stretton, his title being given by Norton Priory. (Lichfield Episcopal Registers. Published by the William Salt Society, Stafford, 1905, pp. 171, 175, 180.)

In September 1376, William de Twemlowe was one of the jurors at the Inq. p. m. of Richard de Vernon, held in Wilmslow Church. Earwaker's East Cheshire, Vol. II., p. 50.

In the Plea Rolls (transcribed and published by General Wrottesley) the following occurs: Chester Plea Roll No. 87, 7 and 8, R. II. (1385), membrane 8. Cestria. Thomas de Twemlowe sued Cecily formerly wife of Henry Pynk for land in Twemlow, which Thomas, son of Roger[1] de Twemlowe, gave to Richard de Swetenham and Alice, his wife, and the heirs of their bodies.

Richard de Swetenham = Alice, temp. Ed. III.[2]

Richard

Ralph

Thomas, the Plaintiff.

[3]In 1392 Thomas Twemlowe was, with others, indicted at Stafford Assizes for the murder of Hugh de Greneway, at Stone, and of Henry de Boterton, Thomas le Mercer, and John le Mercer, at Draicote, in 1385. He was acquitted. (Salt Collections, Vol. XVI.)

In 1397 Richard de Twemlowe was appointed by Richard II. an archer of the Royal Bodyguard, with the Livery of the White Hart, and 6d. a day for life.

1. Reginald.
2. Edw. I. Compare the quotation from Williamson's Villare Cestriense supra.
3. There was great difficulty in bringing Cheshire offenders to justice as the king's writs did not run in the County Palatine. Stat. 1, Henry IV., c. 18, provided a remedy for this. See Ormerod, General Introduction, Vol. I., p. 8.

Welsh records P.R.O., Recognizance Rolls of Chester, 21 and 22, R. II., memb. 27, back.[1]

In 1383 Thomas de Twemlowe infeoffed John Bromhall, chaplain, in all his lands in Twemlowe; and in 1390 John Bromhall made a refeoffment to Thomas de Twemlowe and Ellen, his wife. (Mr. Egerton Leigh's deeds at Jodrell Hall.)

In 1395,[2] on St. Margaret's day (20th July), Thomas de Twemlowe gave all his lands in Twemlowe to Hugh de Knutsford, reserving a rent of twenty-nine shillings; and by a deed of the same date he gave a power of attorney to John Hardyne de Twemlowe to deliver possession of these lands to Hugh de Knutsford. By the kindness of Mr. Leigh, I have been enabled to have facsimiles made of these last two deeds for insertion in this book; and also casts of the seals, which are perfect. Mr. Jeayes, of the British Museum, has also given me much assistance in this matter. The seal used by Thomas de Twemlowe is of red wax, and has in the centre a cross patté between four annulets. There is no shield, but on the top of the cross is a bird with outspread wings, perhaps a dove. The inscription is not very clear, but appears to be: S (IGILLUM) WALTERI HARDYNG. Possibly Thomas de Twemlowe was the elder brother of John Hardyne de Twemlowe.

III. In the 15th century I find the following: 1401. 22nd March. Thomas de Twemlowe was on the jury at an Inquest held at Nantwich to enquire what land Sir Hugh Wrottesley held in Cheshire at the time of his death (William Salt collections, Vol. VI., N.S. 174). 1423. Mr. Egerton Leigh has a deed dated at Twemlowe, 1st Sunday after the Epiphany in the 1st year of Henry VI., whereby Thomas Pynk[3] gave to William de Knutsford and John de Twemlowe all his lands and tenements rents services &c., in the vill of Twemlowe.

And on the same day by another deed William and John conveyed this land to John, son and heir of Hugh de Knutsford.

1462. On 6th January, 2 Edward IV., by a deed also in Mr. Leigh's possession, Ralph Brounhall, of Derbyshire, relative and heir of John Brounhall, the chaplain *(vide supra)*, granted to Thomas Creswall, of Nantwich, and *Margaret, his wife, the daughter and heir of Thomas de Twemlowe*, the lands tenements &c., in the vill of Twemlowe which John Brounhall formerly had by grant of Thomas de Twemlowe.

The seal of this deed has on it a headless figure standing between two shields, the dexter one bearing a chevron, and the sinister a lion rampant.

1454. 11th June. Thomas Twemlow (the earliest occurrence of the name without the final 'e') appears in the Bishop's Register at Lichfield as being presented to the Rectory[4] of Tilston near Malpas, by Sir William Brereton, knight. He is described as "Clericus," but it is evident that he was merely a "clerk by

1. This same Richard was granted the goods of Richard Harrys, an outlaw, 7th November 1398. Calendar of Patent Rolls, Vol. VI., 445.
2. See Appendix B. i.
3. The lawsuit between Thomas Twemlowe and Cecily Pynk in 1385 has already been referred to. The name of Pynk is found in the Astbury Registers of Q. Elizabeth's reign.
4. Ormerod, Vol. II., 697.

Tonsure," for it was only on the 21st September in the same year that he was ordained subdeacon, by Richard, bishop of Down and Connor, his rectory providing him with a title.[1] On 17th December 1457,[2] he was ordained deacon, and on 25th February 1458, priest. On all these three occasions the rite was performed in Lichfield Cathedral; and he was, of course, one of the secular clergy, not a monk. With regard to ordinations of this kind, the following passage, which refers to the latter part of the 14th century, occurs in the introduction to the Lichfield Episcopal Registers (William Salt Archæological Society's publications, Vol. for 1905).[3] "The sons of landed gentry or of patrons might be made "clerks" by tonsure, and instituted to a benefice at any age. The bishop then had power over the youth, to place him under a tutor, and to sequestrate the income of the benefice to his education, and to providing for the serving of the cure. Generally the well-born nominee was instituted as an acolyte, or a deacon at most, and then got leave of absence for study, which was renewed from time to time, postponing his admission to full orders. A benefice was regarded, by those who had patronage or influence enough, as the normal provision for the education of younger sons."

"Plurality was common, and only limited by opportunity, as Papal dispensations were sometimes granted to well-born youths to 'hold ecclesiastical benefices without stint.' Rectors were not required to swear residence at their institutions, though vicars were."[4]

It would seem that Thomas Twemlow was made Rector of Tilston when quite young, and that he spent the three years between September 1454, and December 1457, in undergoing education. From 1458 onwards he probably lived at Tilston.

On 1st June 1470,[5] he was presented to the Rectory of Coddington, which adjoins Tilston, by the abbot of St. Werburgh's, Chester. The date of the appointment of his successor in that living, John Keuerden by name, is not known; but the latter died in 1480. And consequently, Thomas Twemlow had vacated it at some time between 1470 and 1480. A letter has recently been found in the Vatican Archives by Mr. J. A. Twemlow[6] (who has been making researches there on behalf of the Government), which explains what happened. Mr. J. A. Twemlow kindly sent me a photographic copy of the letter, a transcript and translation of which will be found in Appendix B. iii. This letter, dated 11th October 1475, was addressed by Pope Sixtus IV.[7] to "Thomas Twemlow, rector of the parish church of Tylston in the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, a Bachelor of Canon Law"; and it extends and amplifies an earlier dispensation given by Pope Pius II.,[8] allowing Thomas Twemlow to hold for life, along with Tylston, one other benefice with cure of souls, or without Tylston any two other benefices with cure of souls, provided that neither exceeded one hundred gold florins in yearly value.

1. Lichfield Act Books. Liber XI., fol. 102.
2. Ibid, fol. 112, 113.
3. Lichfield Episcopal Registers. Published by the William Salt Society in 1905, p. xiii.
4. Lichfield Episcopal Registers. Published 1905 by the Salt Society, p. xiv.
5. Ormerod, Vol. II., 736.
6. This gentleman seems to be a descendant of Joseph, 5th son of George Twemlow of Arclyd, born 22nd September 1742 d. 28th November 1765.
7. Francesco della Rovere, 1471-84 (see Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. XXII., 103).
8. Enea Silvio Poccolomini, 1458-64 (see Encyclopædia Britannica, Vol. XIX., 153).

By virtue of the earlier dispensation, it would seem that he held the livings of Tilston and Coddington 1470-75. The later dispensation removed the restriction upon the annual income; and, under it. On 25th February 1476,[1] he was presented to the important Rectory of Astbury by Thomas Lord Stanley, afterwards created Earl of Derby for his services at the battle of Bosworth. By the terms of this dispensation he could not however hold more than two livings; so he resigned Coddington which was the least valuable of the three. On 8th November, 1477, he was admitted to the 4th Canonry and prebend of the Cross "ex parte orientali" in the Collegiate Church of St. John at Chester.[2] This, it seems, he could hold along with the two livings as it did not involve cure of souls.

In the list given in Ormerod, Vol. I., p. 108, the annual value of the three Rectories in the time of Henry VIII. is stated to have been as follows: Astbury, £68; Tilston, £12 2s. 1d.; Coddington, £5 4s. 2d.

The Canonry of St. John's appears to have been worth £8, and the prebend of the Holy Cross £5 2s. 6d. (*i.e.* a quarter of £20 10s.). See Ormerod, Vol. I., pp. 311 to 314.

Thomas Twemlow must therefore have been one of the best paid of the Secular Clergy in the Archdeaconry of Chester; and for that reason, no doubt, the Revenue Authorities in 1483 selected him for a victim. The clerical subsidy roll for Cheshire of that year, No. $\frac{18}{446}$ at the Public Record Office, has a complaint noted on it from the Bishop of Lichfield and Coventry, which is given in Appendix B. iii. From this it appears that, between 1481 and 1483, the abbots of Vale Royal, Whalley, and Chester, and Mr. Thomas Twemlow of Tilston, rector of the Parish of Astbury, had been sued in a lay court, and imprisoned to enforce payment.

Why so much preferment should have been showered upon this Thomas Twemlow, I do not know. His first appointment to Tilston by Sir William Brereton was of course purely a matter of interest. Afterwards he may have become distinguished for learning or piety; though the complimentary phrases in the papal letter are probably what lawyers call "common form"; or, he may have rendered political services, though as to this I have not found out anything. He seems to have had a University Degree, and from 1470 onwards is always styled "Magister," and not "Dominus," which was the ordinary prefix of a clergyman who was not a graduate.[3] There are some Oxford Matriculation lists of about 1450,[4] but I have not found his name in them. The Cambridge lists do not go back so far. There is nothing to show whose son he was; and being a celibate, he is valueless to the genealogist. His will does not appear to have been preserved; had it been, a valuable link between the Twemlows of the 14th and 15th centuries and those of the sixteenth might have been furnished, which at present is wanting.

1. Ormerod, Vol. III., 26.
2. The eastern end of St. John's at Chester was dismantled at the Reformation, and remains in ruins.
3. See "Life of William of Wykeham," by George Moberly, published in 1887, page 8. Also Fuller's "Church History," Book VI., section v., 10.
4. Boase's Oxford Matriculation Lists.

1483. John Twemlowe held land in Odrode, from the Rode family in 22nd Edward IV. (Ormerod, Vol. III., p. 135, note.)

It would serve no useful purpose to attempt to construct a coherent story out of these scraps of evidence, so I merely make the following short comments upon the text.

John Brounhall (or Bromhall) was of course a trustee: but why a second reconveyance by his heir some seventy years later should have been required, is not clear. Chaplains seem to have been habitually used as trustees in this particular reign; there is a deed at Oakley of 19th Richard II. by which John Chetwode, lord of Oakley, granted to John of Alston, rector of Norton-under-Line, and William Godfrey, chaplain, all his lands in the township of Oakley—doubtless to secret uses.

The business affairs of the Twemlowes and the Pynks extending over some 35 years, are also obscure; and the same may be said about the relations between the Twemlowes and Knutsfords in 1395, if the marriage of Hugh and Katherine did not take place till 8th Henry IV. (1407), as stated in the pedigree of 1615. It seems more likely that Hugh de Knutsford was already the husband of Katherine de Twemlowe in 1395, when Thomas de Twemlowe conveyed lands to him; especially as his son and heir, John, must have been full age in 1423, to be capable of receiving a grant of lands.

We may note as curious coincidences the close connection of the Twemlowes and Hardings in the 14th century, and the fact that Reginald Twemlowe le Brun, is described in the pedigree as of "Halys or Hales[1]"; seeing that the Twemlows of Peatswood and Hardings of Old Springs have been near neighbours and friends for the last hundred years, and that Peatswood, if not actually in the township, is very near to Hales. This book, however, is not specially concerned with the exact situation of the Twemlowe property in the 14th century, or with its devolution; but only with the members of the family and their descendants, so far as they can be traced. And with regard to these, we are left to infer that Thomas and John de Twemlowe, the last representatives of the senior branch of the family which held freehold land in the township of Twemlowe, died during the first half of the 15th century leaving no male descendants, and that the connexion of the family with the place from which it took its name came to an end at that time.

The Rector of Tilston and Astbury is an interesting figure, but isolated, cut off from what went before, and from what followed. And, as his will has not been preserved, he does not help us to bridge the gulf which lies between the Twemlowes of the reign of Henry VI., and those who lived under Henry VIII. He seems to have been a well connected man, at any rate he had influential friends.

Booth's pedigree shows that John, the father of Katherine, had a younger brother Randle, who may have had a family, as may Richard, the royal archer, of the same period, to say nothing of other less reputable bearers of the name. And

1. There is a deed at Tunstall, dated March 1320, by which Reginald, son of Richard of Hales, conveyed "Godale medow lying near the Colebroc," to Philip de Tunstall.

this leads us to enquire what usually became of the younger sons of the gentry in early days. Some, as we have seen, obtained benefices and took Orders. But others, perhaps the majority, settled on the land and sank into the yeoman class, "which Camden placeth next in order to Gentlemen, calling them 'Ingenuos'."[1]

There is evidence that the Wilbraham[2] and Brereton[3] cadets accepted leases of farms from the heads of their families. And we are told that, after the ending of the elder branch of the Crewe family in an heiress at the end of the thirteenth century, a junior offshoot in the male line continued to exist in the neighbourhood; and that after the lapse of three hundred years a member of it, Randle Crewe, son of a Nantwich yeoman, made a fortune at the bar and was able to repurchase the ancestral acres.[4]

Amongst the East Cheshire yeomen are found, amongst others, the following well-known names: Corbet, Lowndes, Broke, Harden, Rode, Berington, Hulme, Lawton and Davenport. There is every reason to suppose that what befell the cadets of other families happened also to those of the Twemlows, and that they must be sought for amongst the yeomanry of the district.

Ormerod writing in 1817 says that the Twemlows remaining in the neighbouring townships[5] in his day were most probably descendants of Reginald le Brun of Twemlow; and further enquiry tends strongly to corroborate that view. The question is now very much narrowed down, for it can be shown that the Twemlows of to-day are descended from yeomen who lived in Sandbach Parish (which includes Twemlow) in the reigns of the early Tudors. And, though probably it will never be possible to obtain proof positive that these latter were the lineal issue of the ancient stock, yet the probability that this is so becomes almost a certainty when we come to study the Christian names. The reader will have remarked how in the 14th and 15th centuries the names Richard, Thomas, and John constantly recur. Precisely the same thing occurs in the sixteenth century documents. In the reign of Henry VIII., we find John Twemlowe at Nantwich,[6] Thomas Twemlowe at Brereton,[7] and Richard Twemlowe at Betchton.[8] This latter man was almost certainly father of John Twemlowe, who was at Betchton in 1557, and is the ancestor from whom the present Twemlows deduce their pedigree.

In the Sandbach Registers we find Richard Twemlowe married Joan Weldbloode 1571, Richard Twemlowe bur. 1573; Thomas Twemlowe bur. 1573;

1. Jacob's Law Dictionary, under "yeoman."
2. Richard Wilbraham gave his son Ralph a lease of Blore Hall for eighty years at £5 rent temp. James I.; and two farms at Betchton are called "Late Hugh Wilbraham's" and "Late T. Wilbraham's" Tenements, on an old map of 1745.
3. In 1663 Randle Brereton had a lease from Lord Brereton of a farm in Alsager (probably Cresswall shawe) for three lives, rent £4 a year, 2 fat capons at Easter, 6 days' carting or 18/- in money, a dish of apples at Michaelmas, keeping of a dog, and a heriot or £6.
4. Hinchcliffe's "Barthomley," p. 220.
5. The words "settled in Staffordshire, and elsewhere," which have been interpolated by Helsby in the 2nd Edition, were added to show that the branches at Peatswood and Betley Court were included. They do not, I imagine, refer to the early settlements of Twemlows in Staffordshire, which are referred to below (p. 13). The whole passage has been already quoted on pages 3 and 4.
6. Parish Register, 1544, and subsidy Roll, 1545.
7. Parish Register, 1544.
8. Subsidy Roll, 1545, where the name is spelt Thomlowe.

John, son of John Twemlowe, bapt. 1579. Richard, illegitimate son of John Twemlowe, bapt. and buried 1587.

We have seen that there was a John Twemlowe at Odd Rode, which lies between Astbury and Lawton, in 1483. And in the 16th century the name occurs frequently in the Registers of both parishes. At Astbury are Richard, son of Richard Twamlow, bap. 1580; Thomas, son of Richard Twamlow, bap. 1582; John, son of John Twamloe, bap. 1598; John, son of John Twamloe, bap. 1603; Thomas Twamlowe de Rode, bur. 1616.

Lawton seems to have been a great seed-plot of sixteenth-century Twemlowes; here are some of the entries. John Twamlowe and Agnes Lawton, m. 1571. John Twamlowe and Katherine Bagnall, m. 1586. John Twemlowe, son of Thomas and Margaret his wife, bap. 1587. John Twemlowe bur. 1590. Thomas Twemlowe bur. 1591. John, son of John Twemlowe and Joan his wife, bap. 1594.

John, son of John Twemlow de Rode, bap. 1597.

John Twemlowe, son of John Twemlowe, buried 1598.

John Twemlowe de Crosse,[1] buried 1598.

John Twemlowe de Rood,[2] buried 1601.

Kelsall tells us that George Twemlow (Twomlow he calls him) was settled in 1559 at Talk on the Hill, which is in Audley parish Co. Stafford, but only about a mile from Lawton; and that he had a son George baptized 25th April 1564, who married Margery Twemlow at Lawton 18th September 1586, and had a son William baptized at Lawton 16th April 1595; that this William married Ann, and had a son John, baptized at Lawton 28th October 1627. This John married Ann daughter of Thomas Hilditch of the Hole in Alsager, at Barthomley 5th November 1655; and had a son William, who married, and had a daughter Ann baptized at Audley 8th August 1688.

In the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. the name of Twemlowe is found in the Parishes of Sandbach, Brereton, Lawton, Astbury, Nantwich, Prestbury, and Barthomley, all in East Cheshire; and at Bradnape near Leek, Crowborough between Horton and Biddulph, Briaryhurst near Lawton, Audley, Wolstanton, and Hamstall Ridware near Rugeley, all in Staffordshire. This is a long list, though probably by no means an exhaustive one; and shows that the clan, though not exactly widely distributed, had ramified considerably within a limited area. I do not find that its members strayed very far afield, unless, indeed, the two following should chance to have belonged to it. 1.—William Twynloe, of the city of Bristol, merchant, who died in 1615, leaving a son Jonah and a daughter Maria. 2.—Thomas Twinbloe, late of the parish of St. Augustine, within the city and diocese of Bristol, "who departed this life upon the mayne ocean in his voyage towards the island called the 'Barbabhers,' on the 13th day of Julie last past, An. Dom. 1637"; leaving no issue.[3]

1. There is no place in Lawton called the "Cross." Perhaps the place meant is the farm at Rode now known as "Stone Chair," where there are, or were, remains of an ancient cross.
2. Rood probably means "Rode." I do not know whether there is any connection between the name "Rode," and the word "Rood" or Cross.
3. Bristol Wills.

In the remaining chapters I propose to spell Twemlow in the modern way, omitting the final 'e'. This seems to have been dropped by members of the family about the time of Queen Anne or George I. John Twemlow used it in 1689, but not in 1725.[1] In the wills of George Twemlow, died 1704, and Josiah Twemlow, died 1728, it is present all through the text of the will, but absent from the signature. Joseph Twemlow, born 1706, and whose pocket-book begins in 1730, never uses it.

To conclude this chapter, I quote a passage from Ward,[2] who was concerned with the south-eastern side of Mow Cop as we are with its north-western slope, on the subject of local names. He writes :—

"It is remarkable how very commonly the names of villages and hamlets in the vicinity, are to be found among the surnames of the present, or the former, population of the district ; as for instance, the family names of Burslem, Sneyd, Tunstall, Oldcot, Thursfield, Chatterley, Hanley, Bucknall, Bagnall, and Fenton ; proving a fact, upon which we take leave to observe—that the early inhabitants of the country, who were the chief resident proprietors, whether gentlemen, or yeomanry, and who exercised none of the manual arts of a *Smith*, *Wright*, *Tailor*, *Weaver*, *Baker*, &c., nor were seated at *Wood*, *Ford*, *Heath*, *Marsh*, or *Green*, were generally designated from their native villages, and have transmitted their rural patronymics to their now distant posterity."

1. Old books at Peatswood.
2. Ward's History of Stoke-on-Trent, p. 131.

Pedigree of Twemlow of Peatswood, co. Stafford.

Compiled by FRANCIS RANDLE TWEMLOW, Esq., 1907.

Richard Twemlow of Betchton, co. Chester. (Subsidy Roll of 1545 at Public Record Office.) Probably the father of John and George.

(1) John Twemlow, at Betchton 1557 (Inq. p.m. John Davenport). Mentioned in Sandbach Manor Book, 1582; also in Wilbraham Papers at Delamere, Subsidy Roll of 39 and 40 Eliz. and 3 James I.; buried at Sandbach 5 February 1621. Will at Chester.
= Margaret Caghowe, baptized 19 Feb. 1549; married at Warmincham 2 December 1576; buried at Sandbach 19 Feb. 1583-4.

George Twemlow, living 1620. Mentioned in John's will; buried at Sandbach 10 Mar. 1624.

(2) John Twemlow, baptized 2 Feb. 1579. Mentioned in Wilbraham MSS. at Delamere; signed the Remonstrance 1642; buried 23 Nov. 1659. Will at Somerset House.
= Mary, da. of John Podmore of Little Hassall, baptized 24 February 1604; married 18 December 1627; buried at Sandbach 28 Dec. 1670.

Elizabeth, born 1577; married 27 March 1604 Thomas Meakin.

Margery, baptized 20 Nov. 1580; living unmar. 1659; bur. at Sandbach 20 April 1661.

Margaret, baptized 13 Sep. 1583; married 21 December 1602; buried 30 January 1641.
= Hugh Broome.

(3) George Twemlow, baptized 12 June 1631; Ex'or to his father's will. Mentioned in Wilbraham MSS; Trustee of Sandbach Grammar School 1677; buried at Sandbach 12 December 1704. Will at Chester.
= Mary Lingard, baptized 24 February 1638; married 7 August 1654; buried at Sandbach 6 March 1712. Heiress of the Brook House, Arclid, co. Chester.

Joseph Twemlow of Dursley, bapt. 14 Oct. 1673; died 22 Aug. 1740, s.p. Will at Gloucester.
= Mary . . . ., died 24 March 1759, aged 89. Will at Gloucester.

Nathan Twemlow, baptized 13 April 1675; buried 17 Sep. 1714, unmarried.

Sarah, born 12 Dec. 1656; mar. Randle Furnival of Taxmere.
—
Mary, bapt. 5 July 1661; died 1688.

Martha, bapt. 15 Oct. 1665; married Peter Summerfield.
—
Hannah, baptized 15 May 1667; married Randle Smallwood.

Elizabeth, bapt. 3 June 1681; married 1711 Thomas Jolley.
—
Rebecca, bapt. 31 Dec. 1676; buried 30 Jan. 1677.

Peter Twemlow, bapt. 2 Sep. 1678; buried 1680.
—
An infant, died 1658.

(4) John Twemlow of Arclid, baptized 7 Aug. 1659; buried at Sandbach 30 Dec. 1738.
= Mary, da. of James Poole of Hardingswood; married at Wolstanton 29 Dec. 1698.

William Twemlow, baptized 15 May 1663; buried 9 January 1729.
= Ellen Gallimore, mar. 13 April 1696.

Josiah Twemlow of Betchton, baptized 27 October 1671; buried 4 September 1728, s.p. Will at Chester.
= Hannah Banester died February 1729.

John Twemlow, died 1778. William Twemlow, died 1780.

Mary = John Lowe of Nether Knutsford.

Martha = Jonathan Holland.

Elizabeth, baptized 26 May 1702. = (?) John Evanson.

Hannah = Thomas Stretch of Mobberley.

Another da., married . . . . Jackson.

William Twemlow, baptized 25 Oct. 1700; buried 21 Jan. 1701.

Mary, da. of Francis Parrott of Sandbach; mar. 9 July 1727; died 11 Oct. 1753, aged 52. 1st wife.

(5) George Twemlow of Arclid, bapt. 1703; died 17 July 1778, aged 74. Will dated 14 Aug. 1777 at Shelton, co. Stafford; proved at Lichfield 29 April 1779.
= Martha, widow of Joseph Lees, Clerk, of Pickmere; apparently dead 1777; not mentioned in her husband's will. 2nd wife. No issue.

Joseph Twemlow, Clerk, of Etwall, Rector of Morley, co. Derby, born 4 February 1706; died 30 July 1777, s.p.

John Twemlow, Clerk, Curate of Nantwich, baptized 18 February 1710; bur. at Nantwich 5 January 1740.

Joseph Twemlow, born 22 Sep. 1742; died 28 Nov. 1765.
= Mary Wilson, living 1808.

William Twemlow, died young; buried 25 Jan. 1746.

Ann, born 7 March 1730; died 14 Feb. 1757.
= John Hilditch of Brickhouse, near Sandbach.

Mary, born 7, baptized 16 March 1734; died 17 June 1756, unmarried.

John Twemlow, born 11 Nov. 1765; of Oldham, Merchant, 1808.

Francis Lowndes, married at Waverton 5 July 1772.

= Mary Hilditch, born 12 April 1755; buried 12 March 1825.

= Thomas Broome, married 17 January 1781.

Francis Twemlow, born 16 May 1728; died unmarried 25 Nov. 1766; buried at Stockport.

John Twemlow of Macclesfield, born 7 Jan. 1732; died 27 August 1789; bur. at Macclesfield.
= Ann, da. of James Walley.

George Twemlow of The Hill, Sandbach, Esq., born 3 August 1736; died unmarried 29 January 1808.

Abigail, da. of John Mare; mar. 16 Nov. 1770; buried at Stoke 2 August 1776.

(6) Thomas Twemlow of The Hill, Sandbach, Esq., born 18 Nov. 1738; died 21 Feb. 1801; bur. at Sandbach.
= Mary, da. of Rev. Joseph Ward, Vicar of Prestbury; married 21 Sep. 1778; died 31 March 1821, aged 76.

George Twemlow, died young.

Catherine, died young.

Ann, born 1775; died 29 December 1854; buried at Sandbach.

Thomas Twemlow of Peatswood, Esq., High Sheriff 1830; Major of local Militia 1813; born 3 July 1782; died 1 May 1872; buried at Market Drayton; s.p.
= Harriet Frances, da. of Edward Townshend of Wincham, Esq.; born 8 May 1789; mar. 9 Aug. 1828; died 18 May 1880; buried at Market Drayton.

(7) Francis Twemlow of Betley Court, Esq., Chairman of Quarter Sessions, born 16 August 1783; died 10 March 1865; buried at Betley.
= Elizabeth, younger da. of Sir Thomas Fletcher of Betley Court, Bart.; born 6 Nov. 1785; mar. 21 June 1814; died 18 July 1863; buried at Betley.

Mary, of The Hill, Sandbach; died unmarried 28 Nov. 1860, aged 79.

John Fletcher Twemlow of The Hill, Sandbach, born 29 March 1826; died 14 Nov. 1874; s.p.
= Jessie Barbara, youngest da. of Rev. John Armitstead, Vicar of Sandbach; living 1907.

George Fletcher Twemlow.
—
George Cradock Twemlow.
—
Anne Henrietta.
All died young.

Mary Anne, born 4 Nov. 1817; mar. 20 June 1837; died at Charnes 5 Sep. 1885.
= Rev. C. S. Royds of Haughton.

Anastasia, born 5 April 1820; married Rev. Thomas Burne, Rector of Norbury, 7 July 1868; died 1 January 1896; s.p.

Elizabeth, born 10 April 1821; married Rev. Charles Whately, Rector of Taplow, 4 December 1855; died 9 August 1899; s.p.

Thomas Fletcher Twemlow of Betley Court and The Hill, Sandbach, Esq., Chairman of Quarter Sessions, born 25 August 1816; died 30 March 1894; s.p.
= Eliza Anne, eldest da. of William Paynter, Esq., of Richmond, Surrey; married 12 July 1849; living 1907.

(8) Francis Cradock Twemlow, Clerk, of Peatswood and Doddlespool, Rector of Forton 1853—63; born 7 Oct. 1818; died 12 November 1879; buried at Smallwood.
= Charlotte, youngest child of Randle Wilbraham of Rode, Esq.; born 24 April 1821; married 11 Jan. 1848; died 24 Dec. 1852; buried at Smallwood.

An infant girl, born 21 Oct. 1848; lived about two days.

Evelyn Harriet, da. of Sir John Thomas Buller Duckworth of Wear, Devon, Bart.; born 18 Aug. 1857; mar. 17 Dec. 1878; d. 23 June 1880; bur. at Countess Wear; s.p.
= (9) Francis Randle Twemlow of Peatswood, born at Smallwood, co. Chester, 20 December 1852 and baptized there 11 January 1853; educated at Winchester 1866—71, Christ Church, Oxford, 1871—75; Inner Temple 1876—79; called to the Bar 1879; first Commission in King's Own Stafford Rifles Aug. 1874; Commanded the Battalion (then 4th Batt. North Stafford Regt.) 1905-8; two South African medals; D.S.O.

Annie Mary Gertrude, only child of Rev. Edward Lewis, late of Harescomb and Pitchcomb, co. Gloucester, Clerk; born 31 October 1858; married 11 July 1882.

Anastasia Emily, born 26 July 1851; married 16 June 1881.
= Rev. George Bolney Brown of Aston-by-Stone, Clerk, born 24 Nov. 1850. Mr. G. B. Brown is great-grandson of Admiral William Brown, who served under Lord Nelson, fought in Sir R. Calder's action, and died in command of the Jamaica Station 20 September 1814.

(10) Evelyn Dorothy, born at 4 Hyde Park Square, London, W., 12 April 1894; baptized at St. John's, Paddington.

Alexander Cradock Bolney Brown, born 17 July 1882.

Thomas Bolney Brown, born 21 August 1883.

Anastasia, born 10 July 1885.

Emily, born 14 July 1888.

George Bolney Brown, born 18 July 1891.

Charles Bolney Brown, born 2 March 1893.

CHAPTER II.

John Twemlow, at Betchton in 1557, DIGRESSION *describing the advance of the Cheshire yeomen in independence and wealth, their conditions of tenure, military service, heriots, "old rents," fines, Betchton lords of the manor, tenants and freeholders, litigation, attornment, leaseholders prosper and become freeholders, their numbers and income in 1696, William Webb's description of Cheshire folks and their customs in 1621, Draught oxen, John Twemlow's marriage, 1576, family, death, and will 1621. John Twemlow the younger 1579—1659. His marriage 1627, Cheshire Remonstrance to both King and Parliament 1642. John Twemlow's death, and will 1659, old oak chest. George Twemlow 1631—1704, marries Mary Lingard 1654, their 13 children, claim of the Hatherton Twemlows to be descended from one of them, William, not well founded, Josiah, Joseph and Nathan, the five daughters. George's purchase of tithes, his landed property, Trustee of Sandbach Grammar School. His death and will, death of his wife 1712.*

THE TWEMLOWS IN TUDOR AND STUART TIMES.

I NOW COME to the branch of the family which has been settled successively at Betchton, Arclyd, The Hill near Sandbach, Peatswood, and Betley Court; of which the earliest certain ancestor is John Twemlow, who was a substantial and prosperous yeoman at Betchton near Sandbach in the reigns of Philip and Mary, Elizabeth, and James I. He was almost certainly, though direct proof is wanting, the son and successor of the Richard Twemlow whose name (spelt Thomlowe[1]) is on the Betchton subsidy roll of 1545.

In 1557[2] he occupied in Betchton a house and land, pastures, meadows, woods, right of common of Turbary, and appurtenances, for which he paid twenty-three shillings and two pence a year to John Davenport of Henbury near Macclesfield, the lord of the manor. This rent continued to be paid by his son John, his grandson George, and his great-grandson Josiah. The latter died in 1728; and was the last of the family who held the old tenement.

Before proceeding further it may be well to pause a little to consider the circumstances and surroundings of the Cheshire yeomen of the better class in the 16th and 17th centuries.

In the preceding chapter reasons were given for supposing that the Twemlows of Betchton were a cadet branch of the ancient landholding family of Twemlow of Twemlow. They were not freeholders, but held their land on leases for lives. In the 16th century the old system of village husbandry, with its common cornfield, meadow land, and pasture, shared by the inhabitants under the

1. Subsidy Roll of 37 H. VIII., Nantwich Hundred No. 85/20 at Public Record Office.
Betchton, Ran. Corbet, Roger Turner, Roger Harden, Rad. Lowndes, Ric. Thomlowe, Hugo Bidnall, Hugo Fetchgow(?), Ric. Shawe, Ran. Broke.
2. Inq. P. M., John Davenport, P. R-O., Cheshire. Inq P. M. 4 and 5 Ph. and M. No. 3.

supervision of the manorial officials, was breaking down; it being found much more advantageous to hold a separate farm enclosed in a[1] ring fence than to have isolated strips in a large open field. Mr. Russell Garnier, in his "History of the English Landed Interest" published in 1892, says with regard to this change (Vol. I., p. 259):—

"Throughout the mediæval period a system of rural polity prevailed which partook as much of the communal economy of a tribal era as of that individualism initiated by the overlord. The inclosure system just now coming into force broke up the English villeinage as a whole, and by throwing every man on his own resources built up in its stead that sturdy class of yeoman farmer whose independence and energy has stamped its impress on the entire nation. No longer tied to one general form of husbandry, or hampered by communal restrictions, or delayed by some individual's remissness, the tenants of the inclosure system could cultivate their fields at their own leisure, and sow them with any crop that individual enterprise or ingenuity could suggest."[2]

The lessees had thus much greater freedom as regards cropping than their predecessors.[3] They also had a better position as regards fixity of tenure; they could not be turned out by a purchaser of the freehold, the creditors of their landlord could not seize their stock, nor did a[4] "Common Recovery" suffered by their lessor destroy their interest, as had formerly been the case. The lord of the manor warranted them against any disturbance by outsiders; which was a great advantage in those not too scrupulous days, when a small freeholder who owned a "Naboth's Vineyard" was liable to be dispossessed by oppression and fraud.[5]

They were liable to military service. If the lord was appointed to serve the crown in the wars "in his proper person," then the tenant (unless physically unable, in which case he might provide a deputy), was "in his proper person to be ready furnished with armour and weapons to serve under and in the retinue of the said lord in the same warres," or if the township was levied upon for men, the tenant was "to find one sufficient man unfurnished," or to contribute in money or otherwise.[6]

On the death of every tenant a heriot had to be rendered to the lord, originally this was the best beast on the land, but it came to be commuted. In 1621, on John Twemlow's death it was an ox, worth £3 10s.; on Josiah Twemlow's death in 1728, eight guineas were paid, and on his wife's death shortly afterwards four guineas.[7]

There were various small incidents of tenure prescribed by ancient custom, such as the rendering of one shilling and seven pence a year for "average"—that is in lieu of service to the lord with horse and carriage,—and of two capons yearly.

1. For a popular and readable account of the old system see "The Manor and Manorial Records," by N. J. Hone, 1906.
2. Dr. Gilbert Slater's paper on the "Inclosure of Common fields" in the Journal of the Royal Geographical Society, shows that the change came early in Cheshire.
3. Garnier, Vol. I., 302.
4. Blackstone, Vol. II., 142.
5. See "Edinburgh Review," No. 337, p. 13.
6. Betchton lease of 1598. Appendix D. i.
7. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

The rent of twenty-three shillings and two pence was known as the "old rent," and had probably been fixed in the 13th century, at any rate not later than the 14th. As has been said, it remained unaltered till George the second's reign: but even in the 16th century it had long ceased to represent the value of the land. The custom, therefore, was for the lord to exact a fine at each renewal of the lease.

Mr. Jesse Collings in his book on Land Reform published 1906, says (p. 50) that one of the great grievances of the 16th century was the arbitrary nature of these fines; and that one of the demands made by the insurgents during the yeoman and peasant rebellions was that a legal limit should be put to their amount.

This was never done, and the sums exacted varied according to the good pleasure of each individual lord.

Roger Wilbraham (who stood in the shoes of the Davenports in the latter half of the 17th century) wrote for the information of his heir:—

[1]"It will be expected of my heir that he deale no worse with tenants than I have done. And for his directions I have set down ye yearly values according to which I deale and wold have him to deale with the tenants. My rule in leasing is to take for a fine from ancient tenants:

8 years' value for 3 lives.

5 years' value to add 2 lives to 1.

2 years' value to add 1 life to 2.

1 year's value to change a life, or more if there is any great disparity in years betwixt the lives. ROGR. WILBRAHAM."[2]

[3]The valuation of the Wilbraham estate in Betchton here referred to was made by Randle Wilson in 1622. The survey occupied him a fortnight, for which work and for engrossing it on parchment he was paid £3 6s. 8d. The bailiff of the manor who boarded him was allowed 11/- for his "Diet." He valued the 18 farms at £492 0s. 6d. a year, the old rent being about £23. Twemlow's tenement was put at £28 11s. 6d.; by George the First's time it was worth £42; and the present rent is £250.

The Twemlows prospered at Betchton, first because their lords were just and considerate, secondly because they themselves were thrifty businesslike folks, and thirdly because they were healthy and long lived, and the fines for renewal of leases only came at rare intervals. That they considered their hold upon the land secure may be inferred from the fact mentioned hereafter that, about the middle of the 17th century, they bought up the rectorial tithe on their tenement.

In the 18th century it was the practice in some cases to give the lessee an estate of freehold. That is to say the land was conveyed to him, "his heirs and assigns," and not to him "his executors and administrators and assigns," as had been done in the earlier leases, and as is done at the present day. When this change was introduced I do not know. Josiah Twemlow's lease of 1719 is drawn in that

1. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.
2. See also "The Disappearance of the Small Landowner," by A. H. Johnson, 1909, p. 59.
3. Wilbraham M.S.S.

form.[1] It may have been a special compliment paid to "ancient tenants." And it tends to show that the position and status of the old yeoman families steadily improved down to the middle of the 18th century.[2] About that time economic changes set in which completely undermined the class, and caused it to disappear altogether. But this subject will be dealt with later on, in Chapter III.

During the long life of the elder John Twemlow the manorial rights of Betchton changed hands more than once. The same thing was going on elsewhere, landed property was being bought up everywhere by new men, especially lawyers, and the purchasers were more anxious to get a good income in return for their outlay than to keep up a large and imposing retinue. The Davenport rights came in 1609 into the possession of Richard Wilbraham of Nantwich, other portions of the manor were bought by the lessees. Mr. Wilbraham also obtained the paramount rights over the whole manor which had formerly belonged to the lords Audley. It was a time when much litigation took place between landlord and tenant: and, as we shall see when we come to enquire about Betchton, these rights of the overlord gave rise to a prolonged conflict between the Wilbrahams and the freeholders. The latter (acting on the maxim contained in Æsop's fable of the bundle of sticks) combined for purposes of resistance. The system was found to answer well, and continues to the present day. We learn from this account that occupying ownership had its difficulties and drawbacks, which had to be surmounted by the yeoman who aspired to become a freeholder.

John Twemlow's neighbour and friend, Richard Kettle, seems to have been the prime mover amongst the free charterers. But John himself kept clear of it all; though he had plenty of money at command, and could easily have become a freeholder had he so desired. He was getting an old man, his own holding was not in the market (perhaps he hoped it might be some day), and he was content to let things take their course. Thomas Wilbraham, who succeeded his obstinate old grandfather in 1612, and was the father of the beforementioned Roger, was a wise man who saw the necessity of riding his tenants on the snaffle. Moreover he came of an old land owning family, and respected the ancient customs instead of trampling upon them like so many of the *nouveaux riches* of the time.[3] There is an old maxim of law that in order to perfect the grant of a manor it is necessary for the tenants to "attorn," that is to acknowledge the new lord and to transfer their services to him. And attornment was only abolished by a statute of Queen Anne's reign. There is nothing to show that Thomas Wilbraham had any difficulty with his tenants about this matter; but his notes show that he lost no chance of getting them to acknowledge his authority. He was anxious to get the old leases surrendered, so that he might grant new ones; and against this some of the old tenants stood out for a long time. One lease, granted by the Davenports in 1598, lasted till 1666, and was not renewed till 1670.[4] The Twemlow lease was not renewed till 1638; another renewal of it took place in 1670; and there were several more between 1700 and 1728, the date at which the connection of the family with the old place came to an end. The Wilbrahams

1. See Appendix D. iii.
2. Probably the object of making the lessees freeholders was to give them the Parliamentary Franchise.
3. Garnier, Vol. I., p. 303.
4. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

of the 17th century were very strong and tenacious men learned in the law, and had no inclination to part with their rights. Consequently the Twemlows were never able to become owners of the freehold of their old home, like so many of their neighbours and friends. But in 1654, George Twemlow, the grandson of the elder John, attained to the status of freeholder, by his marriage with Mary Lingard the heiress of the Brook House at Arclyd, a place about two miles from Betchton. During the 17th century yeomen freeholders increased and multiplied, so much so that Gregory King writing in 1696 estimated the number of freeholders at 160,000 and that of farmers at 150,000.[1]

Mr. Garnier tells us (Vol. I., p. 324) that from 1576 prices began to rise, by which the yeomen benefited; and again (p. 350) that another prosperous time came for them between 1661 and 1690. At the latter date Gregory King put the income of a peer on an average at £3,200, bishop at £1,300, baronet at £880, a knight at £650, an esquire at £450, a gentleman at £280, a well-to-do freeholder at £90, the less prosperous of the same class at £55, and the farmer at £42 10s. (Garnier, Vol. I., p. 361).

Having devoted so much space to the legal status and financial position of the Cheshire yeomen, I conclude with the observations of a contemporary writer upon their mode of life and their character.

[2]William Webb, an Oxford graduate, writing in 1621 (the year in which the elder John Twemlow died) says:

"In building, and furniture of their houses, till of late years, they used the old manner of the Saxons; for they had their fire in the midst of the house, against a hob of clay, and their oxen also under the same roof; but within these forty years it is altogether altered, so that they have built chimnies, and furnished other parts of their houses accordingly.

The people of the country are of nature very gentle and courteous, ready to help and further one another; and that is to be seen chiefly in the harvest time; how careful they are of one another. In religion very zealous, howbeit somewhat addicted to superstition, which cometh through want of preaching. For the harvest is plenty, but the reapers are few. It is a thing to be lamented and redress to be wished, for in some places they have not a sermon in a whole year; otherwise they are stout, bold, and hardy; of stature tall and mighty; withal impatient of wrong, and ready to resist the enemy or stranger that shall invade their country; the very name whereof they cannot abide; and namely of a Scot.

So have they been always true, faithful, and obedient to their superiors; insomuch, that it cannot be said, that they have at any time stirred one spark of rebellion, either against the king's majesty, or against their own peculiar lord or governor.

1. Garnier, Vol. I., 360, and also Mantoux's Revolution Industrielle, 127.
2. Quoted in King's "Vale Royal," Vol. I., p. 30, of Edn. of 1778, the "Vale Royal" is transcribed in full in Vol. I. of Ormerod's History of Cheshire.

NOTE.—Mantoux says that the yeomen archers at Crecy were freeholders. I doubt this being so. So far as my limited observations have gone they show that the small freeholds in the 14th century were mostly meadow lands and such like tit-bits in the hands of neighbouring squires. The bulk of the yeomen long after that time were not freeholders.

Likewise the women are very friendly and loving, painful in labour, and in all other kind of housewifery expert, fruitful in bearing children, after they be married, and sometimes before.

Touching their housekeeping; it is bountiful, and comparable with any shire in the realm. And that is to be seen at their weddings and burials, but chiefly at their wakes, which they yearly hold (although it be of late years well laid down); for this is to be understood, that they lay out seldom any money for any provisions, but have it of their own, as beef, mutton, veal, pork, capons, hens, wild fowl, and fish. They bake their own bread, and brew their own drink.

To conclude, I know divers men, who are but farmers, that in their housekeeping may compare with a lord or a baron in some countries beyond the seas. Yea, although I named a higher degree, I were able to justify it."

Webb also tells us that the draught work was all done by oxen, which were very large, some going all the way to London with salt.

The oxen were housed in the winter, but not the cows.

Horses were used to ride on or carry corn to the mill. Draught horses were only employed, one or at most two to go before the oxen. The only exception to this rule was in some very sandy places.

Whether the civil wars caused the extermination of the Cheshire ox teams, I do not know for certain. Perhaps they did. At any rate I have not met with any mention of them in the inventories after that date. In the earlier lists they figure prominently, a distinction being drawn between "great oxen" and "drawing bullocks."

It is now time to return to John Twemlow, who must have been quite a young man in 1557, possibly not even of age.

His wife's name was Margaret, and I have no doubt that she was the Margaret Caghowe, who on 2nd December 1576 was married to John Twemlow at Warmincham, their eldest child Elizabeth being christened at Sandbach in 1577. Warmincham parish adjoins Sandbach on the east. Margaret Caghowe was baptized at Warmincham 19 Feby. 1549.

There was one son of this marriage, another John born 1579, and there were three daughters.[1] The eldest, Elizabeth, married Thomas Meakin 26th November 1604, and had a son and five daughters[2]; the second, Margery, died unmarried in 1661[1]; and the third, Margaret, married Hugh Broome,[3] by whom she had a family.[1]

Margaret, John's wife, was buried at Sandbach 19th February 1584.

1. Wills of John Twemlow the elder and his son, and Sandbach registers. There were however two Hugh Broomes, one M. 21st December 1602, to Margaret Twemlow, and the other, 4th August 1600, to Margaret Shawe.
2. The son John, died Aug. 1621, aged eight, the daughters were Elizabeth, Isabel, Cicely, Joan and Judith. The first two were bapt. at Sandbach, the rest at Barthomley (Kelsall).
3. Earwaker's account of the Broome family does not seem quite satisfactory.

John Twemlow is one of the Betchton householders whose names are on the Subsidy Rolls of 39 and 40 Elizabeth and 3 Ja. 1 (1598 and 1606).[1]

He figures on the Court Roll of the Sandbach Manor in 1582 as plaintiff in two actions of debt (M.S. book Grosvenor Museum, Chester).

He died in February 1621, and was buried at Sandbach, on the 5th of that month.

By his will, which is given in Appendix C. I., he left a legacy of £5 to the poor of Sandbach Parish (the benefit of which they still enjoy, as is shown by an inscription in the chancel of Sandbach Church), and he also made bequests for the reparation of the church, to Laurence Wood the vicar of the parish, to his daughters, Elizabeth, Margery and Margaret, and to his grandchildren, godchildren, and others. He also mentions his brother George Twemlow (who died in 1624), his cousin George Twemlow,[2] of Sandbach, and his sons-in-law, Hugh Broome and Thomas Meakin. George Twemlow,[3] of Nantwich, was one of the witnesses.

John Twemlow's will has a complete inventory attached to it, and he left the residue of his property to his son John.

This younger John was baptised 2nd February 1579, at Sandbach. He married at Sandbach, 18th December 1627,[4] Mary, daughter of John Podmore of Little Hassall. She was baptised 24th February 1604, and died December 1670. She was buried at Sandbach.

The only child of this marriage seems to have been George, who was baptised at Sandbach, 12th June 1631.

The lifetime of the younger John Twemlow takes in the period of the Civil War. At the time when the war broke out he was in his 63rd year, and it is unlikely that he took any active part in it. He was, however, one of the signatories of the Cheshire Remonstrance to both the King and the Parliament of July 1642.

As this curious document does not seem to have been printed, I give it here. It shows how anxious the good Cestrians were to keep clear of the trouble, and to prevent their country from being made into a cock-pit. Unfortunately their well-meant effort was unsuccessful. It would be interesting to know who the learned and humorous man was who is responsible for the wording, but

1. The others are Roger and Richard Barnard, Hugo Furnival and Richard Shawe.
2. In the Manor Court records of Sandbach in the Grosvenor Library at Chester, 1569-85, (See Earwaker's "History of Sandbach," p. 8), I do not find any Twemlows mentioned. It would seem that the Sandbach Twemlows were an offshoot from those of Betchton. This George Twemlow was a Sandbach Freeholder in 1623, and probably earlier; he married Catherine Shawe in 1619, and had a large family.
3. From the Nantwich Register it seems that this man was baptised 4th April 1586. His father's name was also George, and his grandfather was probably the John Twemlow whose name is on the Nantwich Subsidy Roll of 1545. He had three sisters, Elizabeth, Jane, and Mary who married Richard Goldborne in 1624. His mother's name was Mary, and she died in 1613. Possibly he was the George Twemlow who married Mary Drakeford, 6th November 1613, at Audley.
4. The Bishop of Chester's license for John Twamley and Mary Podmore to be married at Sandbach or Barthomley, is dated 15th December.

doubtless he took good care to preserve his incognito. Copies of the remonstrance were circulated throughout the country for signature.

[1]"17th July 1642.

A remonstrance or declaration of us the inhabitants of the County Palatine of Chester whose names are subscribed and of many more.

We mostly humbly declare and remonstrate that we owe our laws, liberties ourselves and whatever we can yet stile ours (next God's infinite mercies) to the goodness of his Majesty, and to the great care and indefatigable pains of the honorable Parliament, to the one for discovering the variety of oppressions that had almost overwhelmed us, and preparing and advising apt remedies, to the other for crowning those wholesome counsels with a blessed Fiat wherein the joint acts of a good King and a faithful counsel have so apparently concurred to the general good that we cannot but look upon all such as unworthy of future happiness who do admit for current that dangerous and disloyal distinction which rings too loud in our ears, viz. : for the King or for the Parliament.

Our loyal affections and judgments will not allow us to stile them true patriots and lovers of their country that are not cordially effected to our gracious sovereign, nor them good subjects that disaffect Parliament. The King and Parliament being like Hippocrates' twins that must laugh and cry, live and die together, and both of them are so rooted in our loyal hearts that we cannot disjoint them.

Wherefore we declare that (according to our allegiance and our solemn protestation our vows being in heaven) we are resolved to spend our lives and fortunes in the service and defence of both ; in maintenance of his Majesty's royal and sacred person honour and prerogative, and in the preservation of the Parliament and just privileges thereof, of our true and undoubted religion laws proprieties and liberties which are deposited for our use and avail in that great and wise counsel ; we being confident that neither King nor subject, nor religion, nor liberty can comfortably survive in the ruin and dissension of that great body.

And we further declare and profess ourselves enemies to all those (whosoever they be) that shall be discovered to be agents in making our wounds deep by fostering and fomenting the unfortunate mistake and fearful jealousies between head and body, his Majesty and his Parliament, and which (continuing at this distance) doth threaten the desolation of the fabrick of this blessed government, with the loss of all his Majesty's Kingdoms and Dominions."

Signed amongst others by George Twemlowe, William Twemlowe and John Twemlowe, and William Lingard ; also by Sir Richard Wilbraham, Sir Thomas Delves, Mr. Hugh Wilbraham and Mr. Roger Wilbraham.

John Twemlow died November 1659, and was buried at Sandbach on 23rd. [2]By his will (which is at Somerset House, but has no inventory attached) he left legacies to his sister Margery Twemlow, Randle Broome, and others ; and left

1. Harleian M.S.S., 2107, 251.

2. A copy of this will is given in Appendix C. ii.

the residue to be equally divided between his wife Mary and his son George. But his wife was to have liberty to dispose of one large chest of fine linen in her lifetime.

A handsome seventeenth century oak chest, with the initials I.T. carved upon it, was in the lumber room at the Hill when I was a boy, and is now the property of Mrs. Kennedy. I strongly suspect that this chest is the one referred to in this will.

The will was proved in London, 12th April 1660, by George Twemlow, the sole executor, before the Judges for Probate of Wills. (The Bishops' probate courts had been abolished during the Commonwealth.) But George did not have to go to London for the purpose, the oath truly to administer the goods and chattels of the deceased being taken by him before a Commission consisting of William Liversage Esq., Randle Shillitoe, Randall Poole, and Thomas Smith. (Somerset House wills, Vol. Nabbs, folio 70.)

John's son George was married before his father's death, the entry in the Sandbach Register being as follows: "1654. George Twemlowe ye sonne of John Twemlowe yeoman, and Mary Lingard of Arclid spinster, were published three Markett dayes that is to say the 20th day of July and the 27th of July and the 3rd day of August. And the said George Twemlowe and Mary Lingard were married the seaventh day of August."

Of this marriage there were 13 children, three of whom, Peter, Rebecca, and an unbaptised infant, died young. Of the ten who grew up—

1. JOHN succeeded to his mother's property at Arclyd.

2. WILLIAM is mentioned in his father's will, dated 1704 (where he comes between John and Josiah), and in his brother Josiah's will dated 1723; his sons John and William are mentioned in the latter will, and John also in his cousin Joseph's will, dated 1774.

This William was claimed as their ancestor by the Twemlows of Hatherton near Nantwich, now extinct; and they professed to have portraits of him and of his son John.

The inscriptions on the pictures (prints) are as follows:—"William son of George and Mary Twemlow of Arclyd, near Sandbach in Cheshire, born 1666, removed from Arclyd to Hatherton 1686 at the age of 20, died 8th October 1732, aged 66. C. Vertue Desig., 1730, E. Scriven Sculpsit." And "John Twemlow of Hatherton near Nantwich in the County Palatine of Chester, who died on 29th November 1762, aged 62 years. Drawn by T. Frye from an original picture in the possession of John Twemlow of Hatherton 1768, engraved by Edward Scriven Historical engraver to his Majesty 1827."

I do not think that William was born in 1666, because his sister Martha was baptised 15th October 1665, and his sister Hannah 15th May 1667: and if he came in between, three children must have been born in little more than a year and a half, supposing the baptisms to have taken place according to the usual custom of that time, a few days after birth.

Nor do I see how the John Twemlow of Hatherton, whose will was made 5th October 1762 and proved 19th April 1763, could be identical with the "cousin John Twemlow, son of William Twemlow deceased" who is mentioned in Joseph Twemlow's will made in December 1774.

The Sandbach register has an entry "William son of William Twemlow baptised 15th May 1663." I think that the second William was most likely a slip of the pen, and that the word should have been George; because William[1] Twemlow had a son Daniel baptised only about two months before, on 8th March, whereas George had no child entered as baptised between Mary, 15th July 1661, and Martha, 16th October 1665. I have examined the transcript of this entry in the registry at Chester, but it is in bad condition and the father's name is illegible.

The court roll of the freehold part of Betchton manor dated 1708, has William Twemlow on the list of freeholders who form the jury.

The roll for 1731 (those which intervene between these two are missing) has John Twemlow in place of William. And the next court roll, that of 1750, shows that at that time John Twemlow was one of the four lords of the manor; William Twemlow a brother of John was then occupying Bolt's Green House. Subsequent entries show that John Twemlow lived at the "Drumble," a farm now known as the "Drumber," which adjoins the land belonging to the Hill on the north-east side. He was one of the lords in 1767, and had a son John who served on the jury and acted as constable in 1760. But in 1774 his name disappears from the list of freeholders, Thomas Broome taking his place, and in 1781 Joseph Skerratt had the Drumble "late Twemlowes."

William Twemlow of Bolt's Green gives place to Joseph Twemlow in 1781.

On referring to the Sandbach registers we find William Twemlow married to Ellen Gallimore, 13th April 1696.

William Twemlow of Betchton, yeoman, buried 9th January, 1729.

John and William, sons of John and Mary Twemlow, Betchton, baptised 12th June 1734, and 6th March 1739.

Mary, wife of John Twemlow, senr., Betchton, buried 1772.

John Twemlow, Betchton, buried 1778.

William Twemlow, Betchton, buried 1780.

John, son of John Twemlow, Betchton, buried 1781.

Putting all this together, it would seem that William was born in 1663, that he was settled as a freeholder at the "Drumble" in Betchton in his father's lifetime, that he died in 1729, and was succeeded by his son John, who was a freeholder in 1767, but had sold his estate before 1774. That this John was the cousin John mentioned in Joseph's will, and in his pocket-book in the year 1740 in connection with some cane chairs. That he died in 1778, and his son John

1. The hearth tax returns, 1664-74, show that there was a William Twemlow living at Arclyd then, as well as George Twemlow.

in 1781, both still resident in Betchton. That William the younger brother of John lived at Bolt's Green House as tenant 1750-1778, his wife Hannah dying in 1778 and he himself in 1780. That his son Joseph followed him at Bolt's Green; and may possibly be the "Joseph Twemlow of Arclid, yeoman," who received an annuity under the will of George Twemlow of the Hill who died in 1808.[1] We now return to the other sons and daughters of George and Mary.

3. JOSIAH, baptised 27th October 1671, afterwards of the old leasehold house at Betchton, where his grandfather and great-grandfather had lived.

4. JOSEPH, baptised 14th October 1673, afterwards of Dursley, hereafter referred to.

5. NATHAN, baptised 13th April 1675, afterwards of Middlewich.

These three younger sons seem to have been Dissenters, though Josiah had two seats belonging to him in Sandbach Church, and was Churchwarden of Sandbach in 1711.

Josiah married in 1703, a widow, Hannah Hughson, the daughter of Edward Bannester of Allostock in Cheshire. Her brother, Edward Bannester, by his will dated 1721 left money to endow a new chapel at Allostock. Josiah was the last of the family to live at the old house, to which in his time considerable additions were made. As he had no children and his wife came of a well-to-do family, he was in comfortable circumstances, and a comparison of the inventories taken at his death and his father's shows[2] decided progress in refinement of manners. We find for the first time leather chairs, looking glasses, cane chairs, mahogany furniture, fenders, and glasses,—besides a silver "Tanckott" and some other plate.

Josiah seems to have been intimate with the Amsons of Lees, and by his will,[3] after providing for his wife and making certain bequests to his relatives, he gave to Miss Anne Amson[4] his landed property and tithes, and his two seats in the middle gallery of Sandbach Church; and to her and her sisters equally the residue of his personal property. Miss Amson married, 27th July 1737, Peter Shakerley, ancestor of the Shakerleys of Somerford in Cheshire, and was dead before 1766 (when her husband married again), and was buried at Astbury.

[5]JOSEPH, the fourth son, was minister of the Independent Chapel at Cam in Gloucestershire near Dursley. He went there in 1702; what took him to Gloucestershire is not clear, unless he was educated at the dissenting academy at Tewkesbury mentioned by Mr. Lecky.[6] His wife's name was Mary. I have not been able to find out her maiden name. Her nearest relatives seem to have borne the name of Hickes, or Hicks, and she left most of her property to them. Her will also mentions cousins named Iles and Baker. She was three years older than Joseph, and died 24th March 1759, at the age of 89.

1. John and Jane Twemlow, of Arclyd Green, had a son Joseph bap. 9th March, 1731.
2. These wills and inventories are given in Appendix C.
3. This Will is given in Appendix C. iv.
4. John Amson, the father of Anne, was Sheriff of the County in 1711. He died January, 1736, aged 50.
5. A writer in Gloucestershire Notes and Queries, Vol. V., p. 72 (1891), says of Joseph Twemlow, "we are inclined to think that originally he was a clergyman of the Church of England."
6. Vol. I., p. 95.

Joseph continued to be minister of Cam meeting till 1738, when he resigned. His congregation do not appear to have considered him a hot enough partisan: and his will and epitaph show him to have been a moderate and charitable man.

His will, dated 12th May 1736 and proved 1st September 1740, describes him as "A Protestant Minister of the Gospel dissenting from the terms of conformity to the Church of England, but wishing well to that and all other Protestant Churches." (Anyone who studies church history at the time of the Revolution and in the reign of Queen Anne will understand how much there was to make reasonable people dissatisfied with the Establishment.) He proceeds to show his goodwill by bequeathing his "Study of Books," to be equally divided between his nephews Joseph and John, sons of John Twemlow, both of whom were Church of England clergymen. John did not live to profit by the bequest, but Joseph had the books, and some of them are now in the library at Peatswood.

The epitaph at Cam is as follows: "This monument is respectfully dedicated to the memory of the Rev. Joseph Twemlow, the first minister of the Independent Chapel at Cam, where for nearly 40 years he faithfully discharged the duties of the ministry. He was particularly distinguished by his exemplary piety and christian Charity. The meeting house situate at Water Street, Dursley, was erected at his sole expense partly for the education of 40 poor children in Reading Writing and Arithmetic. And for the support of the Schoolmaster successively he left a liberal endowment in land situate in the parish of Berkeley in this County. He died 20th August 1740, aged 67 years.

And I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours: and their works do follow them.—REV. xiv., 13."

In May 1903 I was told by Mr. N. W. Trotman, the deacon of the Cam Congregational Church, whose family have long been settled at Cam, that the present inscription dates from about the year 1820; and that originally a tablet had been affixed to the outside of the north aisle of Cam Church with the following inscription, which is taken from Bigland's history of Gloucester:

"Near this place lieth the body of Mr. Joseph Twemlow of Dursley, minister of the Gospel, who departed this life 22nd August 1740 aged 67 years.

Mrs. Mary Twemlow relict of the above Mr. Joseph Twemlow died March 24th 1759 aged 89."

It is said that the present tablet is the old one reversed and reinscribed. I visited the school-chapel in Water Street. It was very dilapidated, and not much used. The date over the doorway was much worn, but seemed to be 1713 or 1715. Mr. Griffiths the vicar of Cam, and Mr. Trotman, gave me much kind help.

I am also indebted to my friend Mr. St. Clair Baddeley, of Painswick, for the information that a sermon preached by Joseph Twemlow on the death of John Phillimore of Cam, clothier, a leading member of his congregation, is still extant in M.S. It was preached in July 1738.

Copies of the wills of Joseph and Mary Twemlow are to be seen at the Probate office at Gloucester. The originals and the inventories, if there are any, are said to have been removed to Canterbury.

The name of NATHAN, the fifth son, appears as witness to various documents. He died unmarried in September 1714, and was buried at Sandbach. In the register he is described as a dissenting minister.

Of the five daughters there is not much to be said.

[1]1. SARAH, born 1656, married Randle Furnival of Taxmere near Arclyd, and had four sons and a daughter.

2. MARY, born 1661, seems to have died unmarried in 1688.

3. MARTHA, born 1665, married Peter Summerfield of Alsager, and had a daughter Mary living October 1723.[2]

4. HANNAH, born 1667, married (1706) Randle Smallwood of North Rode, and had a daughter Hannah.[2]

5. ELIZABETH, born 1681, married Thomas Jolley of Astbury in 1711.

This is probably the same Thomas Jolley who was tenant of Rode in 1715[3] (Rode being in Astbury parish). He may have gone there shortly after 1708, when Randle Wilbraham, who had been living there for some years, succeeded his father Roger as owner of Townsend House, Nantwich. In 1718 he paid £90 for part of the hall and demesne at Rode, but apparently he had left before 1724, for in Peter Summerfield's will of that date he is described as "of Sandbach." Elizabeth Jolley and her daughters Elizabeth and Mary are mentioned in Josiah Twemlow's will.

At some date between 1650 and 1660 (the last figure of the date being obliterated) a deed was executed dealing with certain corn tithes in Betchton. The deed, which is at Delamere, is much damaged and mostly illegible; but William Liversage, John Broome, George Twemlow, Randle Stanway, and Thomas Smith were parties to it.

Josiah Twemlow devised by his will the corn tithes of the Betchton tenement to Anne Amson. It seems pretty certain that he must have had them from his father George, and that this damaged deed was the conveyance of them to the latter. From Anne Amson's representatives they passed to the Wilbrahams.

In addition to the freehold land at Arclyd and the old leasehold at Betchton (which he inherited), and the Drumble (which he seems to have bought for his second son William), George Twemlow had freehold property in Smallwood, which he settled 19th October 1699. Presumably he settled it upon his wife for her life and then upon his eldest son John; but his will only tells us that after his wife's death it stood charged with a sum of money for the benefit of his younger

1. Sandbach Register, Randle Furnival's Will, 1707.
2. Josiah T.'s will, 1723.
3. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

children. I do not know where this land was, or how he came by it. Perhaps it was part of his wife's inheritance, perhaps he bought it.

[1]George Twemlow was one of the original trustees of Sandbach Grammar School, under the deed of 28th September 1677. Doubtless his own sons were educated there, and they seem to have succeeded in life. He died in December 1704, and was buried at Sandbach on the 12th; and his will is in the Probate Registry at Chester. It is also given in Appendix C. iii. His wife Mary survived him seven years and died in March 1712.[2] Their tombstones are in Sandbach churchyard under the east wall of the chancel.

1. Earwaker's Sandbach, p. 77.
2. George and Mary Twemlow had fifty years of married life, and appear to have been the only Twemlow couple who had a "Golden Wedding." They did not live to be very old, but they married very young.

CHAPTER III.

John Twemlow 1659—1738, marries Mary Poole. His sons George, Joseph, and John, Joseph's curacies, his books, Rector of Morley 1772, death 1777 and will. John's curacies, his early death 1740, Daughters of John and Mary Twemlow, John's books, politics, and death 1738. George Twemlow 1703—78, marries Mary Parrott 1727. His six sons and two daughters, his second marriage, his death at Shelton, Co. Stafford, his will, and property. Old oak chests. DIGRESSION *describing the decay and disappearance of the English yeoman, quotations from Paul Mantoux and from "Edinburgh Review," yeoman farming, sons of George and Mary Twemlow, Francis, John, George, Thomas.* DIGRESSION *describing the commercial movement, and its connection with the yeoman, quotations from Rhead, Mantoux, and "Edinburgh Review," John Middleton, quotation from Mahon's History of England, career of George and Thomas Twemlow, Shelton, Hanley's Mock Mayor, Thomas Twemlow's two marriages to Abigail Mare 1770 and Mary Ward 1778, his children. The landed estate of George and Thomas Twemlow, Mary Twemlow's property, death of Thomas Twemlow, family arrangements. Joseph and William, Anne and Mary, younger brothers and sisters of George and Thomas.*

THE FAMILY IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

JOHN, the eldest son of George and Mary Twemlow, was baptised 7th August 1659, the fifth anniversary of his father's and mother's wedding day. He married 29th December 1698, at Wolstanton, Staffs.,[1] Mary, daughter of James Poole of Hardingswood.

Their elder son William was born in 1700 and died young.

Three sons grew up to manhood, viz.: George who succeeded his father, Joseph, and John.

JOSEPH, as we learn from his pocket-book in which he made notes 1730-75, was born 4th February 1706. He was educated at Queen's College Cambridge, taking his B.A. degree in 1729.[2] His name does not occur in the Sandbach Register of Baptisms: but both his name and John's occur in the wills of their grandfather James Poole, dated 1719, and of their uncle Joseph of Dursley, dated 1736. Of their school and college career I have not been able to learn anything further. Probably they learnt their Latin at Sandbach Grammar School.

[3]Joseph was licensed to the curacy of Sandbach 25th May 1730. The vicar was Hugh Mee, who was presented to it 1st May 1729, and died there July 1732, aged 29.[4] His successor Samuel Allon was presented 21st December 1732,

1. Wolstanton Register.
2. Cambridge University graduates.
3. Bishop's License.
4. Earwaker's Sandbach.

and came to Sandbach in April 1733. Joseph seems to have gone on as curate in charge during the interregnum, and possibly longer, as he had an account with John Robinson the Sandbach barber till 29th July, and did not go to his next curacy until the following year.

[1]From 7th April 1734 he "supplied" Kingsbury in Warwickshire for Mr. Jackson, and he lodged with Nathaniel Troughton, who appears also to have been a clergyman, and to have lived at Kingsbury.

In October 1736 he went to Water Orton and became curate of that place and also of Nether Whitacre, and he lodged with Keeling Greenway. Mr. Badger was rector of Whitacre and Mr. Martin incumbent of Water Orton which was a chapelry, Kingsbury is a vicarage, and all three are stations on the Midland Railway between Tamworth and Birmingham. He received £12 a year from Mr. Badger and £14 from Mr. Jackson, and his horse cost 6d. per Sunday.

In the spring of 1739 occur the following notes on his moving to Shirley in Derbyshire:—"Mem.: I have paid what I owe in Warwickshire and likewise nobody doth owe me anything there."

"Mem.: I came to board with Mr. Chamberlain on the 20th May 1739, and I am to give him £12 a year for my board and the use of a horse on Sundays."

"Mem.: Mr. Boultbee is to give me in money 35 pounds a year, and I am to have the surplice fees besides at Shirley and Osmaston and likewise 20/- for preaching two anniversary sermons at Osmaston, all amounts to 36 pounds a year besides the surplice fees at both places."

"I preached my first sermon at Shirley in the County of Derby on the 27th day of May 1739."

On the 9th November 1741 he paid £3 7s. 9d. to Mr. George Litton, Mr. John Powell's book-keeper in Derby, for the carriage of eight boxes from Gloucester to Derby, and also "Smith cheese factor in Ashburn seven shillings by the hand of Mr. Chamberlain" for the carriage of eight boxes from Derby to Shirley Common."

On 18th November he sold to John Dale "Burkitt on ye N. Testament and Pool's annot. on ye Old and New Testament at one pound one shilling and sixpence."

So that his uncle's books had arrived from Dursley at last. Matthew Henry's Bible, and various tracts against popery now in the Peatswood library most likely belonged to this collection. A number of books now at Peatswood are mentioned in the lists given in Joseph's pocket-book, but these lists seem to have been made before 1740, and some of the leaves have been torn out.

On 4th December 1745 the Young Pretender's army marched from Ashbourne to Derby, retreating the same way on 6th. It must have passed near Shirley both times, but no allusion is made to it in Joseph's pocket-book. In the Mickleover register the following note occurs: "1746. In the year '45 the

1. Joseph T.'s pocket-book.

Rebels arrived at Derby and many poor people lost their shoes." But the only indication of the disturbed state of the country which Joseph gives is to be found in his notes of the receipt of his stipend from Mr. Boultbee. On 20th October 1745 he received what was due 27th November 1744, and £2 3s. on account, and afterwards another 2/6, and in March 1746 some oats as a part payment, on 27th May his money was more than a year in arrear, and on 30th September a year and a quarter. Things did not come right till 25th March 1748, by which time Joseph had left Shirley. On 11th May 1747 he moved to Etwall, and became curate there, first for Mr. Mainwaring who died in the autumn, and afterwards for Mr. Burslem who continued to be vicar of Etwall till October 1785.

[1]On 13th September 1748 he became, on the presentation of the Master, &c., of the hospital of Etwall and Repton, vicar of Willington near Repton. This is a very small living, and he continued to be curate of Etwall till 29th September 1749, when he removed to Mickleover, and became curate to Rev. Richard Wilmot, D.D.; who was also rector of Morley and canon of Windsor. He then lodged with John Ardron, who seems to have been Dr. Wilmot's tenant or agent. He must, I think, have given up the vicarage of Willington when he went to Mickleover, but I am not quite certain about this. If not exactly "passing rich on £40 a year," he had managed to save money, and was able to assist his brother George at Arclyd who was then embarrassed.

There are not many entries in the pocket-book after 1750. He remained at Mickleover till 28th April 1769, when he returned to his old lodgings with Robert Handford of Etwall. I do not know under what circumstances he left Mickleover, perhaps the state of his health had something to do with it; for the writing in the pocket-book at that time is very shaky, and has mistakes in it and blots. There are some notes of visits paid to him by Dr. Willett of Derby, but without date. Another reason may have been that John Ardron married at this time. Joseph Twemlow published the banns of John Ardron and Elizabeth Bayley both of this parish, but did not marry them; the wedding was on 11th June 1769. Joseph Twemlow's last entries in the Mickleover register are dated February 1769, and his stipend was paid up to Lady Day. John Freeman and Thomas Beard were curates of Mickleover between 1769 and 1772, and a Mr. Davenport occasionally took weddings and funerals there. After Dr. Willmot's death John Ward became vicar and resided there 1772-1820.

Joseph Twemlow does not seem to have taken any duty after 1769 or to have left Etwall again. He paid Samuel Clark for half a year's shaving in November 1769, and again for a year's shaving in April 1771. On 24th May 1770 Dr. Wilmot lent him three guineas. He must have been living on his savings for three years, and the gift of the rectory of Morley which came early in 1772 (Dr. Wilmot having died 2nd December 1771) was no doubt very acceptable. The patrons were the joint lords of the manor of [2]Morley, viz.: Joyce Osborne, spinster; Hugh Bateman, the younger, Esq.; Edward Sacheverell Pole, Esq.; John Newton, Esq.; Isaac Liptrott, clerk; and Dorothy Wilmot, widow. He was admitted 27th May, and inducted 13th June 1772.

1. Bishop's admission.
2. Admission and Induction papers.

It does not appear certain that he ever visited Morley. He may have been inducted by proxy. At any rate he never resided there. His curate was John Ward, who was living at Morley Rectory in 1774, and could hardly have been the same John Ward who was vicar of Mickleover at the same time. Mr. Ward seems to have done his duty well, if one may judge by the registers, which are carefully kept, a list of the families in the parish being given.

This was by no means a matter of course at that date, as the following extracts will show :—

MORLEY, 1763-4. "Mr.....was curate. But as he was a very negligent man, and afterwards became insane, it is to be feared that some entries have been omitted."

MICKLEOVER. "These registers for the year '73 should have been properly inserted in their places; but by reason of the galloping haste of the parson at that time they were unfortunately omitted."

An entry of 1788 also shows that the "conscientious objector" to vaccination is not entirely a product of quite modern times.

There are nine entries of burials of children between 2nd July and 28th August, and then the following comment :—

"These children died of the Smallpox from the supreme and superstitious folly in not innoculating and then these absurd parents excusing their impiety under a pretence that their time was come."

Joseph Twemlow made his will in 1774, and after giving £380 in legacies, and bequeathing his watch and his silver cup to his two nephews John and Joseph Holland, he left the residue of his personal estate to my great-grandfather Thomas Twemlow, whom also he made sole executor.

The watch, which is a handsome silver "turnip" made by Bannister of Wrexham, with the Chester hall-mark of 1747, has found its way to Peatswood.

His pocket-book and three bundles of sermons are also in my possession, as well as the Divinity books already referred to.

He died 30th July 1777, and was buried at Etwall. There is an entry in the Etwall register stating that he was buried there on 1st August. There is also an entry in the register at Morley: "July 30th. The Rev. Mr. Twemlow Rector of this Parish died. He was buried at Etwall in this County." There does not appear to be any tombstone or monument to his memory.

I visited Etwall, Willington, Mickleover, and Morley in March 1905; and received much kindness and help from Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Strong, Mr. Bindley, and Mr. Boden, the present incumbents.

I was, however, unable to identify the house of Robert Handford at Etwall or that of John Ardron at Mickleover.

The Church at Morley is a very handsome one, with a fine tower and spire, a number of interesting monuments, and some ancient glass brought there from

Dale Abbey in 1539. It seems always to have been well cared for, and never to have been violated in time of Civil War.

The alms houses at Etwall are a good specimen of brick Jacobean architecture. Joseph Twemlow notes in his pocket-book that he acted as paymaster to the pensioners during the time that intervened between Mr. Mainwaring's death and Mr. Burslem's arrival.

Joseph's younger brother JOHN was baptised 18th February 1710,[1] and was also at Queen's College, Cambridge, where he took the degree of B.A. in 1731.[2]

[3]He was ordained deacon at Chester 23rd December 1733, and priest 1st June 1735, being then curate of Lymm.

[4]In 1737 he was licensed to Burwardsley, a township in Bunbury parish where a chapel had been recently built and consecrated.[5] He is mentioned several times in Joseph's pocket-book, but never after 1738. From Burwardsley he went to Nantwich where he died, his burial being recorded 5th January 1740.[6] I have searched the Nantwich registers for any further news of him, but without success. He was curate to Dr. Brooke, who was dean of Chester as well as rector of Nantwich, Doddleston, and Winslow.[7]

John Twemlow is mentioned in the will of his uncle Joseph, which was made in 1736; but his uncle survived him, dying in August 1740.

In addition to these four sons, John and Mary Twemlow had four daughters and possibly five.

Elizabeth, Mary, and Hannah are mentioned in the will of their grandfather James Poole, which is dated 1724.

[8]ELIZABETH was baptised 26th May 1702. Apparently she married John Evanson. Joseph Twemlow notes in his pocket-book payments to Elizabeth Evinson, dated 20th March 1745, and to his nephew Joseph Evinson, dated 3rd August 1744. And in his will, dated 29th December 1774, the first legacy is to Elizabeth daughter of John Evanson deceased, evidently his niece.

[9]MARY married John Lowe of Nether Knutsford, and had a son Joseph and two daughters, Mary who became Mrs. Riglesworth, and Elizabeth.

[10]HANNAH married Thomas Stretch of Mobberley, and had a son Samuel mentioned in the will of Mary, widow of Joseph Twemlow of Dursley, dated 1759.

[11]MARTHA married Jonathan Holland of Knutsford, and had two sons, JOHN born 25th February 1741, and living at Bolt's Green in Betchton 1788-9; and JOSEPH born 4th February 1743.

1. Ordination papers at Chester.
2. "Cambridge Graduates."
3. Ordination papers at Chester.
4. Visitations of the Bishop of Chester, Diocesan Registry.
5. Ormerod's "Cheshire."
6. Hall's History of Nantwich, Parish Registers.
7. Hall's Nantwich, p. 302.
8. Earwaker's Sandbach.
9. Earwaker's Sandbach. Joseph Twemlow's Will.
10. Copy of this Will at Gloucester Registry.
11. Pedigree of 1808. Francis Twemlow's note-book. Betchton Court Rolls.

Joseph Twemlow in his will mentions his nephew Thomas Jackson. So, either there must have been a fifth sister, or else one of the four must have married twice.

Very little is known of John Twemlow of Arclyd. His will is not to be found. I have five books, one an allegory called the "Isle of Man," by Richard Bernard, rector of Batcombe, dated 1683; the second on "English Liberties," by B. Harris; the third "The Testament of the Twelve Patriarchs"; the fourth a Geographical Dictionary by Edmund Bohun; and the fifth, on the Doctrine of the Church of England concerning the Lord's Day, published in 1683. They have "John Twemlow of Arclid his book" written in them, and the writing, which is rather elaborate, corresponds with that on a deed of 1695 at the British Museum (Additional Charters 37309) which John Twemlow signed as witness. He seems to have been a Whig, and in Queen Anne's time at any rate, to have leaned towards dissent.

His son George was certainly baptised privately in 1703 (probably by Nathan), as is shown by an entry in the Sandbach register, and his younger sons Joseph and John do not appear in the Sandbach register of baptisms at all. After his brother Nathan's death in 1714, and the accession of the house of Hanover, John seems to have become a staunch Churchman: for, as we have seen, his two younger sons were both brought up to take orders. He died December 1738, and was buried at Sandbach on 30th of that month.[1]

John's eldest surviving son GEORGE succeeded him at Arclyd. He was born 1703, and married 9th July 1727 Mary daughter of Francis Parrott of Sandbach, by whom he had six sons and two daughters, namely Francis, John, George, Thomas, Joseph, William, Ann and Mary. His wife Mary died 11th October 1752, aged 51.[2]

A manuscript pedigree, which seems to have been drawn by my grandfather Francis Twemlow between 1808 and 1814, states that in January 1754 George was married again to Martha widow of Rev. Joseph Lees of Pickmere, that she was dead at the time when the pedigree was made, and that there were no children of the marriage. I have come across no other reference to this lady; and as George does not mention her in his will, she was most likely dead before 1777.

George did not die at Arclyd, but at Shelton in Staffordshire. His will was made there 14th August 1777, and proved at Lichfield 29th April 1779 (see Appendix C. v.). The document escaped my search for several years, as I was unaware that the old man had in his last days followed the example of the patriarch Jacob. But it was very natural and right that he should go to live with his two prosperous sons, when his own home was broken up, as it seems to have been about this time. The old house had been burnt, his two daughters and his eldest son Francis were dead, and probably his second wife also; and his granddaughter Mary Hilditch was married. So that he must have been very lonely in

1. He must not be confused with John Twemlow, of Arclid Green, who married Jane Broome, at Holmes Chapel, in 1713, and had a family by her. There may have been yet a third John Twemlow resident in Arclyd at the same time.
2. Francis Twemlow's note-book, and Sandbach Register.

his old age. He died 17th July 1778, and was buried at Sandbach on 19th, being entered in the register as of "Henley Green"—Henley evidently being intended for Hanley. Hanley Green is mentioned in Plot's Staffordshire, p. 126.

I have one book which belonged to him, and has his name and the date 29th May 1731 written in it. It is Archbishop Ussher's "Sum and Substance of Christian Religion," published in 1649.

Three of his sons, John, George, and Thomas, survived him. John was appointed executor of his will, and all his property that he could dispose of was divided between his grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His grandchildren then living were Thomas of Liverpool, John and Martha children of his son John, Ann daughter of his son Thomas, John son of his son Joseph, and Mary Hilditch daughter of his daughter Ann. Ann Hilditch died in 1757, and her husband John Hilditch in 1777. Their daughter Mary made a Gretna Green marriage with Captain Francis Lowndes in 1772, and was properly married to him in Waverton Church shortly afterwards (see Earwaker's Sandbach, p. 285). There were two children of this marriage, George Twemlow Lowndes and Mary Lowndes, who are mentioned in their great-grandfather's will. What became of them I do not know; perhaps they died young, for their mother's property (the Brickhouse near Sandbach) seems to have descended to her children by her second husband.

George Twemlow mentions in his will his grandson John Twemlow of Sandbach. He was the son of Joseph Twemlow born 1742 and who died November 1765 at Stockport. This John afterwards lived at Oldham.

But to return to the will.—It appears that George had a farm in Smallwood, and this is probably the one mentioned in his grandfather's will of 1704. I do not know where it was, or what became of it; but I do not think it was the farm in Smallwood which now forms part of the Betley Court estate.

Apart from his land it is probable that George had not a great deal to bequeath. Three old oak chests going back to the 17th century were probably brought by him from Arclyd to Shelton, and became the property of his sons George and Thomas. They were at the Hill till a few years ago, and now belong to Mrs. Kennedy of Brookside, Sandbach. They are mentioned elsewhere (see chapter ii., p. 23, chapter vii., p. 69, and chapter ix., section 2). But it is clear that George was not rich. The note-book of his son Francis, who died unmarried in 1766, tells us of a settlement of personalty upon the younger children; and it also contains a record of George's debts. This does not mean that he was reckless or extravagant, his embarrassments resulted from causes beyond his control; the old order was changing, and the yeoman class to which he belonged found no place in the new order of things.

DIGRESSION WHICH THE IMPATIENT READER IS ADVISED TO SKIP.

[1]Paul Mantoux, in his excellent work "La Revolution Industrielle au XVIII. siècle," says that the decadence of the yeomanry began about 1745.

"A partir de 1750 elle se précipite, En 1773, Arthur Young, l'un des premiers, la déplore 'Je regrette sincèrement ecrit il, la perte de cette race d'hommes qu' on appelles les yeomen. C'est à eux vraiment que la nation doit le maintien de ses libertés. Et leur biens maintenant sont aux mains des grands Accapareurs.' Cà et là, des conditions exceptionelles les protègent et leur permettent de subsister quelque temps encore: en 1788, la Vallée de Pickering dans le Yorkshire, en contient encore trois cents établis dans de petites fermes, dont la plupart leur ont été transmises en ligne directe par des générations de propriétaires; mais C' est un fait que l'on remarque et que l'on cite comme une rareté. Dans les dernières annees du XVIIIe siècle, une foule de témoignages nous font assister à ce qu'on peut appeler l'agonie de la yeomanry: au Nord et au Sud de l'Angleterre, dans les régions où apparait et se développe la grande industrie comme dans celles qui restent purement agricoles, partout à la fois l'on constate que la yeomanry s'en va, qu'elle ne compte plus, que ses propriétés sont absorbées par les grands domaines voisins, ou achetées par des acquéreurs venus des villes. Déracinée peu à peu du sol qui l'a nourrie pendant des siècles, son existence est desormais à la merci des circonstances."

[2]Commenting on this book a reviewer says: "Under the stimulus of mechanical invention and commercial power, the old order was being steadily changed in the provincial towns and in the rural districts, and the very foundations of society were in the process of revolution. Those two united forces—invention and energy—were assisting in the radical changes in the English agriculture which took place in the eighteenth century. Some alteration would undoubtedly have occurred without the assistance of these two factors, for general progress of the nation made the communal system of husbandry more and more unsatisfactory. But agricultural changes would probably have been more gradual, and not have been affected by the new commercial atmosphere. When Arthur Young compared large farms to large factories, and when he says that the closer the system of farming is brought to the system of manufacture the better, we at once see the influence of industrial progress on the minds of intelligent agriculturists and great proprietors. It is evidence, and it is evidence only, one fact among many; but, as the proverb says, a straw tells which way the wind blows. For the great volume of national energy which in this period was effecting a peaceful revolution could not be confined within a single channel."

And again: "The connexion between the departing yeomen and the industrial revolution is very close.....The cardinal factor, however, of the change was the alteration of the system of trade from the domestic to the general. It was this which, more than any of the other causes, affected so deeply the entire life of the country."

END OF THE DIGRESSION. THE IMPATIENT READER MAY NOW RESUME.

1. Edinburgh Review, No. 419, January 1907, p. 129.
2. Ditto, p. 137.

As an illustration of the farming methods of some of the old world yeomen, I add my father's favourite story of Mr. Steele of Buddilea near Doddlespool. One day during hay-harvest a passer-by remarked, "How can you expect a crop off your meadow Master Steele, when you never put anything on it?" To which the sage replied, "If it's a grass-year, there'll be grass; and if it inna, there wunna."

We now come to George's sons, and in following their fortunes shall be obliged to pursue the subject of the industrial revolution further, and see what manner of men were being produced under the new state of things.

FRANCIS the eldest son was born in 1728, and does not seem to have had a profession: he never married, but lived at home and did his best to regulate the family finances. He was the executor of his sister Mary who died in 1756, and his accounts show how conscientious and painstaking he was. He was churchwarden at Sandbach 1760-1. He died and was buried at Stockport, November 1766; and it was perhaps well for him that he did not survive. Had he done so, the fate of other yeomen would probably have been his; and like his cousin John at the Drumble, he would have had to part with his ancestral acres.

JOHN the next brother, had had a business training of some kind at Macclesfield, and was better fitted to move with the times. He was able to avert the sale of Arclyd, which remained in the family for another century. An account of him, and of the elder branch derived from him, will be found in chapter vi.

GEORGE the third son was born 3rd August 1736, and in January 1760 he was in partnership with his next brother Thomas at Shelton in Staffordshire. George never married, but Thomas married twice. The brothers were, however, inseparable and always lived together, first at Shelton and afterwards at the Hill, and they had a common purse, and bought land by moieties. George was the survivor, living till 1808. He left most of his property to his nephew Francis—my grandfather—the younger son of his favourite brother; but he left substantial amounts to his other nephews and nieces, including Mary Broome, *née* Hilditch, the daughter of his sister Ann, and grandmother of the late Charles Hilditch Rickards of Manchester. The window in Sandbach Church to George Twemlow's memory was the gift of the latter gentleman.[1]

THOMAS the fourth son, my great-grandfather, the founder of our younger branch of the family requires more particular notice. He was born 18th November 1738. Probably both he and his brothers were educated at Sandbach Grammar School; and he and George may have been apprenticed to someone in the Potteries to learn the business. But as to this I know nothing, all that is certain is that early in 1760 he and his brother George bought in equal shares a piece of copyhold land at Shelton on part of which some works were already standing.

1. Mr. Rickards commissioned Earwaker to write the History of Sandbach, and presented me with a copy of it. He was kind to my sister and myself when we were children, and took us to the Pantomime at Manchester.

DIGRESSION WHICH WILL TAX THE READER'S PATIENCE SEVERELY.

Before going further let us, with M. Mantoux's assistance, try to recall the salient facts relating to British Industries at that time, and the position which men like George and Thomas occupied in the life of their district. This author has explained the reasons why their father was unsuccessful in life; let him guide us to understand why the sons were more fortunate.

In previous chapters M. Mantoux has related how "La grande Industrie" gradually superseded domestic manufacture, how maritime commerce increased, and Liverpool grew in importance, how the need for better means of communication in the country became imperative, how 452 turnpike acts were passed between 1760 and 1774, how the Bridgewater canal was opened in 1761, to be followed shortly by the Trent and Mersey canal, and many others; how Abraham Darby first used coal to smelt iron at Coalbrookdale, how Arkwright revolutionised the spinning business, and Watt invented the steam engine; how, in short, the commercial impulse (l'essor commercial) made itself felt on every hand. With regard to the immediate district which concerns us, coal mining had been pretty extensively carried on at the end of the 17th century, as was also salt boiling; and in the same century a rough class of pottery was manufactured, which was gradually improved upon in the first half of the 18th century. But it was Josiah Wedgwood who changed pot making from an art to a manufacture, and who by carrying it on upon commercial lines, enormously increased the output. Wedgwood first started in business on his own account in 1759. His character was many sided, undoubtedly he had a strong artistic sense, appreciated the beauty of Greek models, and did much to educate public taste; but it was business energy and organizing power which specially distinguished him.

A modern writer says of him: "Wedgwood himself was no artist, he was a tradesman pure and simple; but he was an absolutely ideal tradesman from the trader's point of view. He was keenly alive to the importance, to the necessity in fact, of art as an adjunct to manufacture, and this is certainly more than can be said of the majority of the manufacturers of the present day. He therefore employed the very best artistic talent (according to his judgment) which was then available" (Staffordshire Pots and Potters, G. W. and F. A. Rhead, 1906, p. 215); and again, p. 225: "His services to the art of potting were great and lasting; more, on the whole, than those of any other individual Staffordshire potter, the area of his operations being so extended. Moreover, he is an absolutely typical Staffordshire man; whatever his shortcomings were, and they were many, he *stands*, as it were, for the district. His virtues and his foibles are those of the Staffordshire potter generally; his enterprise, his initiative, and his unfailing courage stamping him as one of the most remarkable men of his time. The epitaph upon his monument in the parish church of Stoke-upon-Trent which states that he 'converted a rude and inconsiderable Manufactory (*sic*) into an Elegant Art' is a ludicrous travesty of the fact, what he ***really*** did was to convert an art—rude it may be, and inconsiderable, but still an art—into a manufacture. In other words, he inaugurated an entirely new order of things in the production of pottery, and a less desirable one." To which may be added Professor Church's remarks in his

South Kensington handbook as quoted by Messrs. Rhead: "Perfection of materials and workmanship displaced the old native picturesqueness, vigour was sacrificed to finish, originality to elegance. But it would be most unfair to the memory of Wedgwood if too much stress were laid upon this critical view of his methods and style. The improvements which he effected in the ceramic industry of the country were too substantial to be seriously compromised by the want of spontaneity in the artistic character of much of his choicer ornamental ware." (Staffordshire Pots and Potters, p. 232.)

It now remains to let Mr. Mantoux inform us whence came these wonderfully able, energetic, and enterprising men, who did so much to transform the old England into a new one. After patient and careful enquiry he arrives at the conclusion that they are nearly always descended from the old yeoman stock. He cites as a notable example[1] the family of Peel, and he gives many other instances. [2]He goes on to say: "Nous avons essayé d'expliquer comment la yeomanry avait disparu: nous commencons à comprendre ce qu'elle est devenue. Elle a fourni, pour ainsi dire, des materiaux à une société en formation. Quand l'alliance séculaire de la petite culture et de la petite industrie, sur laquelle reposait son existence s'est trouvée compromise, elle s'est portée instinctivement du côtê ou s'offraient le plus de ressources. La revolution industrielle ouvrait aux activités sans emploi une carrière nouvelle: les plus entreprenants ou les plus heureux des yeomen s'y sont lancé en conquérants. Leur fortune faite, beaucoup d'entre eux s'empressaient de redevinir proprietaires."

[3]The reviewer proceeds to comment: "It was from these men largely that the indomitable and calm courage, the patience, and the perseverance which characterised the soldiers of Cromwell originated. They lived habitually a life of toil; their physique, as befitted countrymen, was strong; they were intelligent in mind and energetic in character. They were the very men to carry into effect the inventions of ingenious inventors who wanted the qualities necessary for commercial success. . . .

Men of business had been few, and had been isolated, so that they had had little political weight except in the city of London. Now the growth of industrialism in the north and midlands of England was producing a class which was ready to act and work together in the common interest commercially and politically. Its power is shown, among other ways, by the manner in which Acts of Parliament were passed for the creation of canals. As Monsieur Mantoux acutely observes: 'The English political régime, which was based on individual liberty, on political combination, gave ample opportunity to commercial co-operation. The spirit of English political freedom moved into another sphere, and the habits of centuries affected new industrial movements: "C' est par un movement tout naturel, et conformement à d'innombrables précédents que les grands industriels furent amenés à se concerter en vue de certaines demarches pratiques.' The industrial revolution in its results was thus, in a sense, the natural complement of the political and religious conflicts of previous years, of the capacity trained by

1. p. 382.
2. p. 385.
3. Edinburgh Review, January 1907, No. 419, p. 142.

centuries of usage, of industrial action. Nowhere in these peaceful changes in it do we see the least trace of State initiative or of State management. Everywhere it is the individual Englishman who is the sole factor, at some times and in some circumstances strengthened by common action. Nor could this growth of a class of men springing from the better endowed yeoman fail also to create a new middle class. Men of business and professional men had hitherto been isolated; there had been no corporate social feeling. The number of well-to-do families produced by the new movement, at once intelligent and energetic, gave an intellectual stamp to the new middle class—a self-respect and a reasonable pride. Thus the industrial revolution, the outlines of which we have sketched, largely by the aid of Monsieur Mantoux's excellent book, was equally a social revolution creating a a large and distinct social stratum."

Mr. John Middleton,[1] the worthy parson of Hanley Chapel, was noted for telling his hearers wholesome home truths. On one occasion he reminded the affluent employers of labour in his congregation of their small beginnings. He said that they, like the sparrows, had been "hatched under the thatch."

We must not lose sight, too, of the course of public events under the administration of the elder Pitt. I quote Lord Mahon's history of England, Vol. IV., p. 185:—

"Such then were the principal foreign transactions of the year 1759—the most glorious, probably, that England ever yet had seen. That it was the most glorious was apparently proclaimed or acknowledged by all parties at the time, nor will history find much to detract from that contemporary praise. In Asia, Africa, America, Europe, by land and sea, our arms had signally triumphed. Every ship from India came fraught with tidings of continued success to the British cause. In January we received the news of the capture of Goree, in June of the capture of Guadaloupe. In August came the tidings of the victory of Minden, in September of the victory of Lagos, in October of the victory of Quebec, in November of the victory of Quiberon. 'Indeed,' says Horace Walpole in his lively style, 'one is forced to ask every morning what victory there is, for fear of missing one.' And again, p. 169: 'It is the peculiar glory of Pitt—and a praise which all parties have concurred in awarding him—that he could impress his own energy on every branch of the public service; that under his direction our chiefs, both by land and sea, viewed obstacles and dangers as he did—only as a spur to exertion, and as an enhancement of fame.' And lastly, p. 186: 'Nor did our trade and manufactures languish amidst this blaze of military fame. It is the peculiar honour of Chatham as may yet be seen inscribed upon the stately monument which the citizens of London have raised him in Guildhall—that under his rule they found *commerce united with and made to flourish by war.*'"

1. Ward's History of Stoke-on-Trent, p. 352.

HERE THE DIGRESSION ENDS.

We are now able to understand the kind of drama and the sort of actors that occupied the stage in the last year of King George the Second's reign when George and Thomas Twemlow first came upon the boards, and to appreciate the position which they themselves occupied. But as to their actual methods and proceeding I have been able to learn very little. In Ward's history of Stoke-on-Trent, published in 1843, they are described as "Eminent Potters"; at any rate they were successful ones.

In less than 10 years they had built themselves a handsome house which still stands (*vide* chapter IX., section 3). Between 8th July 1766 and 2nd February 1770 they subscribed £2,000 towards the making of the Trent and Mersey canal. I still have the original receipts for the calls, the earliest ones signed by Josiah Wedgwood himself (the Treasurer and main promoter of the canal), and the later ones by his deputy J. Sparrow. Afterwards they took debentures in the same undertaking, which was not completed till 1777.

With regard to the product turned out from the Shelton works, it is probable that the brothers resembled Wedgwood in his practical rather than in his artistic temperament. But I have heard my father say that he had seen a letter which seemed to show that work of a higher class was attempted. However, I have not come across anything showing that the ambition of the brothers soared very high, that they advertised, or even had a distinctive mark for their wares. Nor do they seem to have desired to amass a huge fortune. M. Mantoux attributes to Arkwright the saying: "Si je vis assez, je serai assez riche pour rembourser la dette nationale," rather a big task to set oneself even in the days before the Napoleonic wars had swelled the debt. George and Thomas seem only to have desired to realise a competence with which to retire to their native parish and to the country life which they had quitted in their youth. In 1788 the Hill near Sandbach came into the market, and they bought it and retired there.

I have given an account of the place at the end of chapter IV., and also in Chapter IX., section 4. They lived there for the rest of their lives; and I have been told that they were hospitable and fond of good cheer, and that they kept greyhounds. When I was a boy the old Scotch fir was still standing on which the dogs' meat used to hang.

Thomas Twemlow was one of the party at the first Hanley venison feast on 18th September 1783. The proceedings were, I believe, intended as a satire upon the civic festivities of the ancient borough of Newcastle. On this occasion Ephraim Chatterley was the mock mayor. In the records of the society I find that "on the 4th September 1788 in the 29th year of our Sovereign Lord George the 3rd King of Great Britain France and Ireland &c. &c., Mr. Thomas Twemlow was appointed to the honour[1] of being mayor of Hanley and Shelton in the parish of Stoke-on-Trent in the County of Stafford."

George does not seem to have had anything to do with these frivolities.

As had been already said Thomas Twemlow was twice married, first 16th November 1770 at Stoke to Abigail Mare of Hanley, who was buried at Stoke-on-

1. Records of the Hanley Venison Feast. Also see Simeon Shaw's History of the Potteries. Ed. of 1900, p. 137.

Trent 2nd August 1776; and secondly 21st September 1778 at Prestbury to Mary Ward.

With regard to the first marriage, there were at Hanley both Mayers and Mares,[1] which is rather confusing, perhaps they were all one family to begin with, Abigail's father's name was John. In the entry of the marriage in the Stoke register she is described as "Mayer," but she signs herself "Mare." Of this marriage there were three children, George, Catherine, and Ann. The two first died young, but Ann lived on at the Hill till 1854, when she died unmarried aged 79. The family bible at Peatswood and a large prayer book were gifts from her to me shortly before her death. Her nephews and nieces called her "Aunt Natty." As so little is known of the Mare family, and as there is no surviving issue of this marriage, I have not included Abigail in the chapter on the wives. No settlement was made at the time of the marriage, though certain articles of agreement were entered into between the parties, but "Natty" was provided for under her father's will.[2]

By his second marriage with Mary Ward, whose family is fully treated of in Chapter VII., section 6, Thomas Twemlow had four children, Joseph Ward who died young, Thomas born 3rd July 1782, Francis born 16th August 1783, and Mary born 1781.

A word may be added as to the landed estate of George and Thomas. In 1778 they already had the Smallwood farm part of the Betley Court estate at the present time, and also land in Sandbach; and in that year they bought Weston, in Standon parish, from Sir Thomas Broughton. Before 1801 they had become owners of a considerable acreage at Balterley, and in 1788 (as we have seen) they acquired the Hill.

In 1801 Thomas Twemlow owned the Lynhouse or Lynnhouse, a farm, partly in Betchton and partly in Rode, which he settled upon his daughter Ann by will. His wife Mary Ward brought him a copyhold farm in Sutton Downes near Macclesfield, known as Pyegreave, which had been the property of Sir Thomas Fitton in Henry the Seventh's reign.[3]

And she also brought into settlement a tenement at Rostherne known as "Percival's tenement," which had been held by Mary Ward's father and grandfather, and which was then included in a lease given in 1760 by Samuel Egerton of Tatton Park, to Rev. Joseph Ward of Prestbury, her father. [4]The lease, a freehold one, was for the lives of Joseph Ward himself and those of his two daughters, Ann and Mary, and the rent was 4/9 a year.

As Mary Twemlow lived till 1821, the lives lasted for more than 60 years.

Thomas Twemlow died 21st February 1801, aged 62 (it will be remembered that his brother George survived him and lived till 1808) and his wife Mary died

1. See the list of names given in Simeon Shaw's History of the Potteries, Edn. of 1900, p. 138. Mare, Meare, or Mere, is a very old Staffordshire name; derived from the village of Maer, midway between Newcastle and Market Drayton.
2. Will of Thomas Twemlow.
3. Transcript of Sir T. Fitton's Inq. P.M., furnished to the lords of Betchton in 1613, now with their documents at Sandbach.
4. Marriage settlement of Thomas Twemlow and Mary Ward at Peatswood.

31st March 1821, aged 76. The arrangements made with regard to the property were as follows :

Mary Twemlow, the widow, had her own property at Pyegreave and Rostherne, and the use of the Hill for her life, and other income under the marriage settlement and the wills of her husband and brother-in-law. Thomas, the elder son, had the Weston and Sandbach land, and his father's residuary personality. Francis the younger son had the Balterley and Smallwood land and his uncle George's residuary personality. Ann had the Lynnhouse, and Mary had Pyegreave; and both the sisters had shares of the personality.

But the old people must have given the children something more valuable than mere wordly goods, namely, a good bringing up.

All the four grew up to be high-principled, wise, and kindly, much respected by all who knew them. The reputation for ability and integrity which had been gained by the father and uncle was well maintained and added to in their time.

It is now time to go back to the younger brothers and the sisters of George and Thomas.

[1]Joseph, the fifth son of George and Mary Twemlow of Arclyd, was born 22nd September 1742. His wife's name was Mary Wilson, and they had a son John, born 11th November 1765. Joseph died 28th November 1765; Mary was living in 1807 and had an annuity settled upon her by the will of her brother-in-law George Twemlow.

John the son was living in 1807, he was then, and had been for some years, a merchant at Oldham.

William, the sixth son, born 25th January 1746, died young.

Besides the five sons, there were two daughters:

(1) Ann, born 7th March 1730, who married John Hilditch of the Brick House, Sandbach, and died 14th February 1757, leaving a daughter Mary, born 12th April 1755. Francis Twemlow's note-book contains memoranda of various payments made on account of this niece, between 1761 and 1766, including one of 14/6 when she had the Smallpox in 1764. Apparently she was not much disfigured by it, for in 1772 she eloped with Captain Francis Lowndes as already mentioned.

After Captain Lowndes' death Mary was married again January 1781, to Thomas Broome of Sandbach, by whom she had issue, three sons and three daughters.[2] Frances, one of the daughters, married Charles Rickards of Manchester.[3] Mary Broome died in 1825.

(2) Mary, born 7th March 1734, died 17th June 1756.[4] Her brother Francis was her executor, and she left her small fortune to be divided amongst her brothers.

1. Francis Twemlow's note-book.
2. Earwaker's "Sandbach," p. 279.
3. They were the parents of Mr. Charles Hilditch Rickards, of Manchester, who commissioned Earwaker to write the History of Sandbach. For an account of Mr. C. H. Rickards, see that work, p. 280-282.
4. Francis Twemlow's note-book.

CHAPTER IV.

Thomas 1782—1872, and Francis 1783—1865, sons of Thomas Twemlow of the Hill, early training. Thomas buys Peatswood, marries Harriet Frances Townshend 1828, his travels, Chairman of Drayton Board of Guardians 1836—1868, his hospitality, his death 1872, and his wife's 1880. Francis marries Elizabeth Fletcher 1814, their nine children, public life of Francis Twemlow, private life, his wife's death 1863, last illness and death 1865. Ann Twemlow 1775—1854, and Mary Twemlow, 1781—1860, at the Hill.

THE FAMILY IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

IN 1808, after the death of their father and uncle, both Thomas and Francis Twemlow found themselves comfortably provided for. Francis gave up the study of the law in London, and bought a horse and gig to take him down to Cheshire. The horse went on for many years, and the gig was still in existence in 1865.

Thomas and Francis had both been at school at Macclesfield, where an excellent education was to be had. The school, which dates from 1502, had been reorganised in 1774 under an Act of Parliament. The thoroughness of the mathematical education is shown by Francis' note-books for the years 1794-99, which I have.

[1]Thomas matriculated at Brasenose College Oxford 15th April 1801, and passed his B.A. examination 4th June 1804. He was serving with the embodied Cheshire Militia at Lewes[2] in July 1806, and at Plymouth and Dartmoor in 1810, when he held captain's rank.[3] In 1813 he was appointed major in the Northern Regiment of Staffordshire Local Militia.[4]

Francis studied law in London with Mr. Preston the well-known conveyancing counsel, a training which proved very useful to him in later life. He held a commission in the Volunteers, and afterwards (1809) was a captain in the Congleton Corps of Local Militia, which was formed under the Act of 1808 to replace the regular Militia when embodied, and in place of Infantry Volunteer Companies.[5]

The first considerable transaction undertaken by the brothers was the purchase of Peatswood, which was made by Thomas in 1808, Francis acting as legal adviser. The business was completed early in 1809, and Thomas had his home there until his death 1st May 1872.

1. Matriculation paper, and testamur, at Peatswood.
2. Old diary, at Peatswood.
3. Letter about a French prisoner.
4. Old Gazette.
5. Local Militia list published by the War Office in 1811.

After the great war was over he went abroad to see the world, which had been virtually closed to Englishmen for twenty years. He[1] "sailed from Newhaven 17th August 1821, about two o'clock a.m., in the 'Lord Wellington' packet, the surf being too high to admit of our embarking at Brighton—arrived at Dieppe at 4 o'clock the afternoon following. There were thirty passengers on board and berths for only eighteen, and as the majority consisted of ladies the scene was a most extraordinary one. Many of the ladies expressed a wish to be sea-sick. 'It was so wholesome.' They were all gratified to the extent of their wishes."

The route followed was *viâ* Normandy, Paris, Geneva, through Switzerland and over the Great St. Bernard pass, into Italy,and home by Germany and the Rhine.

The following year he made a journey to the Isle of Man, and thence through Scotland. He also subsequently paid a visit to Ireland, and saw most of the places of interest there. He remained a bachelor till he was in his forty-seventh year, and then, 9th August 1828, married Harriet Frances daughter of Edward Townshend of Wincham near Northwich, a lady to whom he had long been attached. Mrs. Twemlow was very witty and lively, full of fun up to the end of her very long life, a clever artist, and an indefatigable gardener.

After the wedding the happy pair made an extended tour on the Continent, which lasted from September 1828 till midsummer 1829, the winter months being spent in Italy.

The Pope (Leo XII.) died in February, and the popular verdict upon him, —according to Thomas Twemlow's diary—was that he had made three great mistakes in life :

First, in being made Pope at all.

Second, in holding the office so long.

Third, in dying when he did ; because he spoilt the carnival.

Various marbles and bronzes at Peatswood are souvenirs of this tour ; and one bottle of Falernian wine of 1828 still remains in the cellar.

In the following year 1830, Thomas Twemlow served as Sheriff for Staffordshire, and on 10th March 1846 he was made a Deputy Lieutenant for Shropshire by Lord Hill.[2] He was an active magistrate all his life ; and he was chairman of the Market Drayton Board of Guardians from its formation in 1836 until January 1868.

On his resignation of that office, an address was presented to him which was signed by the twenty-six members of the board, and after expressing regret at his retirement, continued as follows :

"We cannot allow this opportunity to pass without offering you our testimony to the very valuable services you have rendered to us,—to the ratepayers, the poor, and the public generally of the Union, during the long period you have held the office of chairman.

1. Diary at Peatswood.
2. Papers at Peatswood.

We who have attended the board for this long period, and those of us who have more recently become guardians, have had the privilege of observing and fully appreciating the business-like qualities you have always brought to bear upon any question that has come before us. Your urbanity of manner—strict impartiality—your attention to the interests of the ratepayers as far as was consistent with a due regard to the wants and claims of the poor and destitute, have always led us to feel that in you the office of chairman was most efficiently and worthily filled, and that the appointment reflected a compliment on ourselves for having made so happy a selection."

In addition to his public duties he was much occupied with the management and improvement of his estates in Cheshire and Staffordshire; he did much for Peatswood by building planting and draining. He was a good practical farmer, ably seconded for forty years by his faithful factotum Richard Beeston; and he made farming a business and not merely a hobby. He was interested in canals, one of which affected his property considerably; and afterwards in railways, in many of which he took shares. He was something of a sportsman: in 1813 there is a reference to his hunters, and he continued to ride till he was over eighty. His "Joe Manton" is in the gun rack at Peatswood, and as a boy I used to shoot with it.

Peatswood was a very pleasant and hospitable house in his time, and his wife's. They both enjoyed society, and were a good host and hostess. Sketching, fishing and theatricals were amongst the amusements. Boys always had a good time there, and a handsome "tip" on leaving.

The old Squire of Peatswood was very simple in his tastes, and could not bear anything showy or flashy. His brother thought he carried this rather too far, and once said of him, "Tom's a bit under the mark; he has a cotton umbrella when he should have a silk one." In 1847 a new lodge was being built for him; and, the Gothic revival being then at its height, it was proposed to adorn the gables with finials nearly eight feet long. The squire objected, he didn't want "those dolls," as he called them. Nevertheless, they were erected and stood for sixty years. Lately they have decayed and been removed, and no one wishes to see them replaced. So that in the long run—the very long run—the old man has carried his point, though his wife got her way to begin with.

They both lived to a good old age, Thomas dying 1st May 1872, aged 89; he was much bent by rheumatism and also suffered from blindness in his later years. His wife lived till 18th May 1880, and passed her 91st birthday, and she retained all her faculties till the end. Their memory is still cherished by those who are old enough to remember their many kindnesses. Their portraits, painted in water colours by F. Cruikshank about 1840, are at Peatswood.

We now return to the younger brother, Francis Twemlow, who, having inherited land in Balterley, naturally became intimate at Betley Court, which is within a mile of it;[1] and on 21st June 1814, he married Elizabeth, the younger

1. I found at Aqualate a letter from my grandfather, dated 2nd January 1811, at Peatswood, accepting an invitation for his brother and himself to dine at Betley Court at 4 o'clock. The letter is addressed to Sir Thomas Fletcher.

Thomas Twemlow, of Peatswood.

STOKE-ON-TRENT
CITY

daughter of Sir Thomas Fletcher. She had one brother, the second baronet, who changed his name and abode and became Sir John Fenton Boughey of Aqualate. And she had also an elder sister, Anastasia (known in the family as "Aunt Bob") who was musical like her father, and on her mother's death in 1821, became owner for life of Betley Court. She never married, and when she died, 16th April 1848, her sister Elizabeth Twemlow, succeeded to it for her life, with remainder to her eldest son, who had power to dispose of it as he pleased. Francis and Elizabeth Twemlow always had their home at Betley Court from the time that they married, living there first with Lady Fletcher and afterwards with Aunt Bob, before they themselves succeeded to the place.

They had nine children, five sons and four daughters, of whom two sons and one daughter died young.

The three sons, THOMAS FLETCHER, FRANCIS CRADOCK, and JOHN FLETCHER will be referred to in the next chapter.

[1] The three daughters were MARY ANNE, born 4th November 1817, who married 20th June 1837 Rev. Charles Smith Royds, of Haughton Rectory near Stafford, and died at Charnes near Eccleshall 5th September 1885, having had four sons and six daughters; ANASTASIA, born 9th April 1820, who married 7th July 1868 Rev. Thomas Burne, Rector of Norbury Staffs., and died s.p. at Chetwynd End Salop 1st January 1896; and ELIZABETH, born 10th April 1821, who married 4th December 1855 Rev. Charles Whately, Rector of Taplow Bucks. and died s.p. at Reading 9th August 1899.

Francis Twemlow had a distinguished public career as chairman of the Staffordshire Quarter Sessions for twenty-three years. He qualified as a justice in 1815. Mr. Sparrow was then chairman, but he retired soon afterwards and was succeeded by his son-in-law, Sir George Chetwynd; he was followed by Sir Oswald Mosley, who retired in April 1835. At the Midsummer Sessions Francis Twemlow was appointed chairman, but with characteristic modesty only consented to take office for a single session. He, however, held the position till January 1859, when he retired at the age of seventy-five.

After his death it was said of him that [2] "he united in a peculiar degree an unfaltering energy with a remarkable degree of mental calmness. His intellect was singularly clear, and his feelings never perturbed the transparent current of his thought. His mind was peculiarly adapted for legal investigation. He intuitively divested a subject of everything irrelevant to the issue to be tried, and by confining his attention exclusively to the really determining elements of a question, attained to an accuracy of judgement which many men of greater intellectual grasp have failed to reach. He was a patient listener, and never allowed a prepossession to close his mind to the reception of a new phase of a question. In dealing with counsel, whose zeal for their clients sometimes leads them to pursue a course which is trying to a presiding judge, Mr. Twemlow displayed the spirit which he showed on all occasions. His courtesy and patience were proof against any irritation, whilst these qualities were only the sheath in

1. Information of Theodosia Lady Boughey.
2. "Staffs. Advertiser," 18th March 1865. (On back of F. T.'s picture at Peatswood.)

which his firmness was enveloped, and few men who have presided in courts of justice, even in the highest tribunals of the land, have won more completely the respect and esteem of the bar. To secure this, however, something more than pertains to demeanour was necessary. No chairman of Quarter Sessions, and no president of any Court of Justice, can gain the confidence of lawyers or of the general public, who does not display a competent acquaintance with the law he sits to administer. Mr. Twemlow was acknowledged on all hands to have, not merely attained a respectable acquaintance with the criminal law, but such a thorough knowledge of it as to render him an authority whose opinions were entitled to the greatest respect and deference by those who had made it their special study."

On 1st January 1855 Mr. Twemlow was the recipient of a service of silver plate, consisting of thirty-nine pieces weighing upwards of two thousand ounces and of the value of £1,300, in recognition of his services. The centre piece bore the following inscription :-

"The service of plate, of which this centre piece forms a part, was, on the 1st day of January 1855, presented to Francis Twemlow, of Betley Court, Esquire, by a numerous body of the nobility, magistrates, gentry, clergy, members of the Bar, solicitors, iron masters, merchants, bankers, manufacturers and others, connected with the County of Stafford. In grateful acknowledgment of the remarkable ability and disinterested zeal with which, for a period of nineteen years, he has discharged the laborious duties of chairman of Quarter Sessions for the County of Stafford."

Owing to the death, on 29th December 1854, of his half-sister Ann, Mr. Twemlow was not able to be present himself on the occasion, his place being taken by his son Thomas Fletcher Twemlow, who read the reply which his father had written.

Lord Hatherton, the Lord Lieutenant, made the presentation, and after expressing regret at Mr. Twemlow's absence, proceeded to remark that respect for the law was universal in England, and that this feeling was extended to those whose duty it was to administer the law, he spoke of the services of former chairmen of Quarter Sessions, of the greatness of the County, whose population now exceeded 620,000. He said that whereas in Sir Oswald Moseley's time the annual number of prisoners for trial averaged 470, it had since risen to 816 (the number during the previous year being 845), necessitating four adjourned Sessions, and greatly increased labour.

He continued: "But it is not Mr. Twemlow's labours alone which have caused us to consider it necessary to mark our sense of his services. Our attention has been often directed to the eminent talent he has always displayed in the discharge of his duties. Mr. Twemlow has now presided in our Courts of Quarter Sessions for nearly twenty years. During that period it has been a source of pride to the County Magistracy to present him to the Bar and the Public as their representative. They well know—I myself can aver it, on the highest authorities—that in legal knowledge and attainments he has attained no ordinary rank as a Criminal Lawyer. By great application, perseverance, and

research, he has made himself master of every leading principle of the Criminal Law; and by the tenacity and accuracy of his memory, and the quickness of his perception, he possesses the power of applying those principles with uniform propriety and ability, under circumstances of every degree of difficulty and complication. These great qualities, united with patience and a remarkable kindness of disposition, have won for his character the unfeigned admiration and respect of all classes in the County."

After referring to those who were prevented from attending, he concluded by saying that he hoped that the attendance of persons in the highest station in the county would show that the testimonial was (and that Mr. Twemlow would so consider it) not merely an expression of opinion on the part of a few individuals, but expressive of the sentiments of the county at large.

Mr. Twemlow's written reply, already referred to, began by regretting his unavoidable absence, and said that the duty he had then to discharge was a more difficult one than any which he had had to perform in the Court of Quarter Sessions, and that he was quite unable to return thanks as he ought for the splendid testimonial. He said that he had, at the wish of Lord Talbot and the magistrates, consented to take the chair at the Mid-Summer Sessions in 1835, but that distrusting himself and disliking prominence, he had declined to become chairman permanently, until it appeared that no other magistrate was willing to undertake the task, and that he then obeyed the call upon him from a sense of public duty, and made the attempt. He continued: "Judge then, my lord, how highly I must be gratified when now, at the expiration of nearly twenty years, at this advanced period of my life—in my 72nd year—I receive from such a county as the county of Stafford, such a mark of public approbation, such a testimonial as is now presented to me; not the gift of a few personal friends, but emanating from a body of not less than three hundred contributors of all ranks, with many of whom I have not even the pleasure of being acquainted. . . . .

Surely, my lord, I may be justified in saying, with a feeling of honest pride, that this is a day memorable for me—the most memorable of my life—and your lordship will, I am sure, give me credit for my sincerity when I add that no words can express my feelings on such a day."

After a reference to his predecessors in the office, he went on to say: "My lord, I accept the offered testimonial with deepest feelings of gratitude to the contributors, and with most heartfelt thanks to my brother magistrates, especially to my able and unwearied coadjutor Mr. Hill, and the gentlemen of the bar, for the support, the assistance, and the kind attentions I have invariably received from them in the performance of my public duties, but not without a feeling that my humble talents and imperfect services have been very greatly overrated. I flatter myself with the hope that this testimonial may descend as an heirloom in my family, and that it may afford evidence to those who may come after me, of the estimation in which their ancestor was held by his contemporaries. The only merit I can claim for myself is that of having, to the utmost of my ability, done my duty to the public in the position in which I have been placed, and without the hope or expectation of any other reward than the testimony of an approving conscience.

My lord, it only remains for me to thank your lordship for the terms (too flattering) in which you have been pleased to speak of me; to thank Mr. Loxdale for the kind assistance he has given me in selecting the plate (which has been described to me as very beautiful), and in otherwise carrying out the object of the contributors; and to thank my numerous friends who have done me the honour of being present on this, to me, most gratifying occasion."[1]

[2] Francis Twemlow acted as umpire between masters and men on the occasion of the disastrous strike in the Potteries in 1836-7. The strike lasted several months, and was ended by the umpire's award in January 1837.

[3] He was also chairman of the Trent and Mersey Canal Co. for many years, and the value of his services in that capacity received recognition in the shape of a most handsome testimonial from the shareholders. When, in 1846, that property was transferred to the North Staffordshire Railway Co., Mr. Twemlow became a director of the Railway Company, an office which he held till his death.

In addition to his public duties, Francis Twemlow personally managed his own estates and home farm. He was a good landlord, and the building which he did was done well, and has stood the test of time.

As a young man he rode to hounds; and I have his gun, an early percussion one, by Westley Richards.

From the age of 32 he suffered from periodical attacks of gout. He was very abstemious;[4] and used to have a decanter of toast and water, which looked like pale sherry, by his side at dinner, in case he should be invited "to drink wine" with anybody. His wife predeceased him, 18th July 1863.

In the last years of his life his health failed gradually, and his last illness was of six weeks' duration. There was no disease, but a gradual decay of the vital powers, and he died at half-past eight, p.m., on Friday 10th March 1865.

To quote again from the obituary notice in the "Staffordshire Advertiser."

[5] "To very few men it is given to pursue a conspicuous and earnest course of life and to excite so little hostility, and few indeed at the close of an active career have, to an equal extent with him who has just departed, enjoyed that crown of a well-spent life—honour, love, obedience, troops of friends—with so entire an absence of enemies. Distinguished in public usefulness up to a few years before his death, spending those last few years in the quiet of his rural home, the sun of his life has set peacefully and calmly, and it were impossible to wish for anyone a more desirable exit from the stage of life than that permitted to him whose life has ebbed away under the shadow of the great trees that flank Betley Court."[6]

The family party at Betley Court in my grandfather's later years was a large one. Besides himself and his wife, the elder son and his wife lived there, and

1. (Hinchcliffe's Barthomley), p. 178, &c.
2. "Staffordshire Sentinel," 28th February 1880.
3. "Staffordshire Advertiser," 18th March 1865.
4. But he believed that flesh meat was the one important food, and that all else was "rubbish." This mistake was probably the cause of his illnesses.
5. "Staffordshire Advertiser," 18th March 1865.
6. My grandfather's portrait in water colours, painted by F. Cruikshank about 1840, is at Betley.

Francis Twemlow, of Betley Court.

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also the youngest son John, and the daughter Anastasia who afterwards became Mrs. Burne. My father was a constant visitor, and always kept some clothes there. The first Sir Thomas Boughey, whose birthplace it was, and who owned several thousand acres in the neighbourhood, was also a frequent guest at his aunt's house. My sister and I were there, as children, for long visits; and in those days of six o'clock dinners, used to come down to dessert, spending some time afterwards with our elders in the drawing room or garden according to the time of the year. My grandmother's great occupation was needlework, for which she had a large frame standing on legs like a table.

Ann and Mary, half sister and sister of Thomas and Francis Twemlow continued to live at the Hill after the death of Mrs. Twemlow in 1821.

The place was beautifully kept up, the old-fashioned garden, with its greenhouses, clipped yew hedges, arbours and old fruit trees, being very pleasing. The ducks, fowls and pigeons were white, and the railings, gates and gable boards were all painted white, as well as the inside doors and panels, and the stone floors in the house were white too.

The old ladies were very kind and generous, and much respected.

Ann died, as already mentioned, on 29th December 1854.

Her sister Mary had the misfortune to fall on a slide in the road and break her leg. It never set properly, and she had to use crutches for the rest of her life.

I well remember, as a child, going to stay at the Hill, and the old yellow chariot with cee springs, and a pair of short docked black horses; and the old servants, Samuel Bradford the butler, and his sister Mary Bradford the maid, James Barker the gardener (who said that a mowing machine couldn't go without stopping to whet), and his two daughters Mary the cook and Sarah my nurse, and little John the coachman, and Sam the half-witted man who taught me to thresh with a flail, and encouraged me to attack the turkey cock with a wooden sword. I also made the acquaintance there of an old-world dish now happily disused, called "furmety," an unwholesome mess of new wheat boiled in milk with sugar and spice.

Aunt Mary died 28th November 1860, aged 79.

CHAPTER V.

Thomas Fletcher Twemlow 1816—1894, succeeds his father 1865, Assistant Chairman of Staffordshire Quarter Sessions 1859, Chairman 1869, presented with his portrait 1885, marries Eliza Ann Paynter 1849, private life, death and will. Francis Cradock Twemlow 1818—1879, at Rugby and Oriel, his jump, ordained deacon 1841. (Canon John Hutchinson.) Ordained priest at Hereford 1842, Hanford, Smallwood, marries Charlotte Wilbraham 1848, her death 1852, removes to Forton 1853, and to the Hill 1863, and to Doddlespool 1873. Succeeds his uncle 1872, last years and death. John Fletcher Twemlow 1826—1874, succeeds to the Lyn-house and Pyegreave and afterwards to the Hill, at Meretown 1865—74. Marries Jessie Barbara Armitstead 1871. Moves to the Hill and dies there 1874, intestate.

THE FAMILY IN THE LAST HALF OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY.

THOMAS FLETCHER, the eldest son of Francis Twemlow, became squire of Betley Court upon his father's death. He was born 25th August 1816, and was educated at Rugby, but his time there was cut short by an attack of asthma. He went to Christ Church Oxford in 1833, taking his degree in 1837, and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1841. He qualified as a J.P. for Staffordshire in 1849, and in 1859 became assistant chairman of Quarter Sessions. Being elected chairman in 1869, he held that office to the end of his life. In 1885 he was presented with his portrait, and in 1889 with an illuminated address, by his brother magistrates. He was also chairman of the Newcastle-under-Lyme Board of Guardians 1857-94, a member of the Staffordshire County Council and chairman of the Finance Committee in 1889, and a County Alderman in 1891.

It is unnecessary to add more regarding his public career, because a full account of it is given in a memoir of him published shortly after his death, which occurred 30th March 1894.

With regard to his private life, he married 12th July 1849 Eliza Ann, daughter of William Paynter of Belgrave Square, and Richmond, Surrey, and he and his wife always lived at Betley Court, never having a separate home of their own. He was no sportsman but used to ride. His ordinary dress in the day time was a blue coat, white corduroy trousers, a beaver hat, and stick up collars ; at night he wore a blue swallow-tailed coat with gilt buttons, and a twice round tie. He was fond of London, and well known at the United University Club.

He was a good landlord, and took pleasure in building ; besides renovating and enlarging Betley Court, he rebuilt nearly all the farms and cottages on his property during his twenty-nine years of ownership. He succeeded to his father's

property in Balterley and Smallwood, and his mother's at Betley, Audley and Longton. As heir-at-law of his brother John, he obtained the Hill, Pyegreave, and the Lyn-house. He also came into some property in Balterley, Alsager, Northwich and Hartford from Mrs. Mottram, and her brother John Twemlow of Hatherton. With the exception of what came from the last mentioned testator, everything was in his power to do as he pleased with. He left it to his wife for her life, and afterwards to his nephew George Fletcher Royds.

The second son, Francis Cradock Twemlow, my father, was born at Betley Court 7th October 1818. He was sent to school when 6½ years old, with Rev. E. Carless at Wolstanton, and afterwards to Rugby where Dr. Arnold was head-master. Mr. Anstey was his house-master. He was a very active and athletic man standing over six feet high, a cricketer, football player, jumper, and short distance runner. From Rugby he went to Oriel College Oxford, matriculating 16th June 1836, and graduating B.A. 1840, and M.A. 1843.

His most daring athletic feat at Oriel was jumping from the top to the bottom of the stone steps which lead from the college hall to the quadrangle. Some Eton men were looking down from the top, and wondering if such a thing were possible. He, fresh from Rugby (where cross country running and obstacle jumping were regularly practised) and anxious to uphold the honour of his school, said at once that it was, and showed that he was right by making the jump there and then.

There are two flights of steps with a landing between them, and the total horizontal distance to be covered is about sixteen feet, and a run of about ten yards can be taken, that being the length of the passage which divides the hall from the buttery etc.

The width of the jump, taking into consideration that the take-off is about six feet higher than the bottom step, is nothing extraordinary, but the danger lies in the lowness of the two arches overhead, which would brain anyone who miscalculated and jumped too high. My father made the jump on impulse, in hot blood; but no one has since cared to repeat the performance.

He was also an enthusiastic tennis player, one of his regular opponents being the Hon. F. Charteris, who as Earl of Wemyss is still vigorous at the age of 90. I believe that they played even, and that no one in the University could give them odds.

My father was also a good rider and shot. He used to shoot with his cousin the first Sir Thomas Boughey, and Charles Wicksted, both of whom were fine sportsman of the old school; and on one occasion nearly lost an eye by a descending shot, which had been fired at a high woodcock.

But after taking orders he gave up shooting, finding that it interfered with his work.

He was a good judge of a horse; and had a strong bump of locality, knowing all the short cuts and bridle roads over a large tract of country, and being able at once, when asked, to describe the best route between any two points.

Francis Cradock Twemlow,
From a water colour drawing about 1840.

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He was ordained deacon 19th December 1841, and on the following day licensed to the curacy of Hanford; his vicar being Canon John Hutchinson of Blurton.

Canon Hutchinson lived till 1865; and my father took me twice to visit him, once at Blurton, and once at his official residence in the Cathedral Close at Lichfield. The day we went to Blurton he was having a choir supper, and wanted some charades to amuse the people in the evening.

He himself composed one, and he set my father and me to make another. "It must not be too easy," he said, "or they'll guess it directly." Accordingly we set to work upon the word "Pentagon." Meanwhile the Canon took the word "Pigwash," and arrived at the last syllable by transposing the letters in the name of a lady singer. Whether Miss "Shaw" was pleased at the liberty taken with her name, or whether the astute Blurtonians guessed our riddle, we never heard.

My father had a little house of his own at Hanford, and he lived there for nearly four years. He was ordained priest 18th December 1842 at Hereford, Bishop Bowstead of Lichfield being ill. I have heard him say that, in addition to being put to the trouble and expense of going to Hereford, it was actually intended that the candidates for ordination should pay fees both to Lichfield and Hereford. This monstrous proposal was, however, successfully resisted; the opposition being led by John Till (the later vicar of Gnosall), who was the eldest of the batch. On leaving Hanford in 1845 my father received a handsome silver inkstand from his parishioners, "as a tribute of respect for his zeal in promoting the spiritual and temporal welfare of all classes during his Christian ministry amongst them."

[1] In those days the country was ill-policed, and rioting was not unknown in the Pottery districts; the rioters robbing and burning houses. My father used to say that his house at Hanford had a narrow escape from a fate of this kind, but his Hanford lads came to the rescue.

I have heard from another source that he himself stood on his doorstep with the poker in his hand, and held the mob at bay, but he never mentioned this himself, and he always said that he was "a man of peace."

From Hanford he removed to Smallwood in Cheshire, between Sandbach and Congleton, where a new church had just been built and a district formed for it out of the large parish of Astbury. His license to Smallwood is dated 29th September 1846. The parsonage house had not yet been begun, and for some time he lodged at the farm in the township which his father owned, with the tenants whose name was Hulme. Mrs. Hulme lived to be over 90, and I remember as a boy being taken to see her. The old house was half timbered, with a brick wing added to it, and very picturesque. It stood at some distance from the high road and was approached by a muddy lane. When it was pulled down, about 1866, and a new house and buildings erected on another site, the tenants, of course, gained in comfort and convenience, but an interesting relic was destroyed.

1. This must have been in August 1842. For the account of these riots see Ward's History of Stoke-on-Trent, published 1843.

Smallwood is only about three miles from Rode Hall, where my grandfather, Randle Wilbraham, then lived, and only two from Rode Heath, where his eldest son, Randle the younger, and Sibella his wife, were settled. And as the Wilbraham family were much interested in the new church at Smallwood, an intimacy soon arose between them and my father. There were five Miss Wilbrahams still unmarried, and my father was not long in becoming engaged to Charlotte the youngest, who was a very bright and attractive person, with many and varied interests, of whom a full account will be found in Chapter VIII. They were married 11th January 1848, at Astbury.

Their first child died in infancy, before even she could be baptised, which was a great grief to them. But a second daughter, Anastasia Emily, was born 26th July 1851, who happily still survives, and is the mother of six children.

Their four years of married life were very happy ones. There was plenty of work to be done in the parish, my mother undertaking the musical part and training the choir.

Rode, Betley Court, and the Hill were all within easy reach, so that visits were constantly exchanged. The new parsonage also had to be arranged, and the garden made. In the latter operation my father took a leading part himself, assisting the bow-legged old gardener, Tommy Fox, with the heavier work. Tommy Fox had some fine dark wallflowers, of which he was proud, but as to the origin of which he was evasive. It transpired however, eventually, that they had been given to him by a canal boatman, who had stolen them from a garden near London. This little garden cost my father £200.

On Christmas Eve 1852, all this happiness was brought to an end by my mother's death, four days after my birth ; and my father continued a widower for the remaining twenty-seven years of his life.

In the following year, by the death of his cousin John Boughey, the rectory of Forton fell vacant, and my father was presented to it and held it for ten years, retiring in favour of the present rector in[1] 1863. His admission to Forton Rectory is dated 26th July 1853.

On leaving Smallwood he received from his parishioners a handsome silver salver and cake basket, with an inscription saying that they were presented to him "on his resigning the Incumbency of Smallwood in testimony of the esteem in which his people held him, for his faithful teaching and unvarying kindness during a ministry amongst them of nearly eight years."

I can bear witness to my father's energy and activity in working his Forton parish, having often as a boy been his companion on his rounds.

Every Sunday he had three services, one at Radmore Lane three miles from the rectory, where a school-chapel had lately been built by Sir Thomas Boughey. In the winter this one was at 9 a.m., before the morning service at Forton, and in the summer it was in the afternoon, the Forton service being in the evening.

1. The Rev. George Boughey held the living of Forton for about 45 years. On the death of his elder brother, he succeeded to the baronetcy and the Aqualate estates.

At Forton Church there was no organ or harmonium, but the schoolmaster started the tunes by blowing an enormous wooden pitch-pipe, which pulled out like a telescope to alter the note. The responses were led by old Joey Smart, the parish clerk (who went about on week days in a beaver hat and smock frock), and the church furniture had been little altered since it was renewed in the reign of George I. The church was not heated in any way.

In the year 1859 the church bells were put in order, a new bell being added, two old ones recast, and new floors and frames provided. An Oxford scout was also imported to instruct the natives in the art of bell-ringing.

There were Sunday schools at Forton and Radmore Lane, and also a night school for backward lads, and a cricket club which flourished until the volunteer movement of 1860 killed it.

My father also took pleasure in his little farm and his Jersey cows, and he re-arranged the Forton garden on the plan of the one that he had left at Smallwood. His life, however, must have been a very lonely one at this time, with no one to take care of him and see that he ate proper meals. As the result he had a serious illness in 1861, brought on by overwork and insufficient nourishment, and had to take Leamington waters and reform his regimen.

On leaving Forton in the spring of 1863, he was presented by his parishioners with a beautiful drawing room clock; and the Radmore Lane congregation also gave him a handsomely bound bible, "as a small parting gift and remembrance of their gratitude for invaluable services and privileges afforded to them by him, whilst rector of the parish of Forton." This inscription was written in it by his old friend John Till, vicar of Gnosall, the parish which adjoins Radmore Lane.

After giving up the living at Forton, he did not take another parish, but, at the wish of his uncle Thomas Twemlow, went to live at the Hill, which had lately become vacant by the death of his Aunt Mary. He lived there for ten years, and of this period there is not much to relate. He served on the Sandbach Board of Guardians as the representative of his old parish of Smallwood. And then, and to the end of his life, he took Sunday duty nearly every week for some clerical friend or neighbour who was ill or in need of a holiday.

He kept off his hereditary enemy the gout, by hard exercise and simple living, and occasional visits to Buxton.

In 1872 his uncle died and left the Peatswood property to him (the widow however having the house for her life); and the Sandbach property to his younger brother John. So that in the spring of 1873 my father found himself again in want of a home.

The Doddlespool estate, near Betley, coming into the market just then, he bought it and settled there. He also shortly afterwards bought the Swinchurch farm, which abutted upon his land at Weston. And the remaining six years of his life were mainly occupied in getting his property into order. As Peatswood (where he had the home farm on hand) is fifteen miles from Doddlespool, and

Weston about ten, this involved a great deal of travelling to and fro on horseback and on foot.

He also hunted constantly with the North Staffordshire hounds, and enjoyed the sport thoroughly. But the violent exertion at his age was scarcely good for him, and in the autumn of 1879 he was hardly in his usual health. On 12th November the end of a long day brought hounds and horsemen to Barr Hill house near Madeley. Just as all were moving off homewards, my father was seized with apoplexy and fell from his horse, death being instantaneous.

His death called forth many expressions of sympathy, for my father was above all things neighbourly and genial, and a general favourite. He was also much looked up to as a man of just views and sound consistent judgement, whose advice was sought and followed. As a father he was most kind and considerate, but judicious, and by no means to be trifled with, as he could (to borrow my old nurse's expression) "be very royal" when occasion seemed to require it.

He was buried at Smallwood, by the side of the wife to whom he had been faithful so long, on 18th November, the church being crowded with his old friends and parishioners, and the whole choir in attendance.

By his will he provided for his daughter, and left the residue of his property, real and personal, to his only son.

The third son JOHN FLETCHER TWEMLOW was born 29th March 1826. On the death of his father he succeeded to Pyegreave and the Lyn-house, which had been left to him by his aunts; and he and his only unmarried sister Anastasia rented Meretown House, between Forton and Aqualate, from Sir Thomas Boughey. After his sister's marriage in 1868, he lived alone there till 1871, in which year on 1st August he married Jessie Barbara, youngest daughter of Rev. John Armitstead vicar of Sandbach. Soon after this his uncle died, and he became owner of the Hill and other property at Sandbach. In the Spring of 1873 he entered into possession of it, and in a great measure re-built the old house. In the following year, soon after going to live there, he was taken suddenly ill, and died 14th November 1874, at the age of 48. As a boy he was strong and active and a bold rider, but an attack of rheumatic fever deprived him of the use of his legs almost entirely, and he could not move without the aid of a crutch and stick, the use of which greatly developed the muscles of his arms, which were very powerful. His infirmity prevented him from going to school or college or from taking up any profession, but he took a great interest in the schools at Betley, and was also a student of natural history. He made a collection of stuffed birds and beasts, which were a delight to his nephews and nieces. He was very amiable and much respected.

As he died intestate, his landed property passed to his elder brother as heir-at-law.

CHAPTER VI.

John Twemlow, of Macclesfield, 1732—89; his sons Thomas, of Liverpool, 1755—1826, and John, of Lawton, 1765—1821. Letter about a French prisoner at Dartmoor. Descendants of Thomas, Rev. William Hamilton Twemlow 1801—1879, Col. Walter Hamilton Twemlow 1830—1873, failure of male issue and sale of Arclyd. Descendants of John, Genl. George Twemlow, R.A. 1795—1877, and his sons Col. George Hamilton Twemlow 1826—1877, Frederick Forde Twemlow, now in New Zealand, and Major-General Edward D'Oyley Twemlow R.E. (born 1840), and others.

THE ELDER BRANCH.

MY great grandfather Thomas Twemlow had, in addition to Francis and George, who died unmarried, a third elder brother named John, born January 7th 1732,[1] who succeeded his father in 1778 as owner of the Brook House at Arclyd. [2]He married Ann, daughter of James Walley, an alderman of Chester, and was settled at Macclesfield in 1761. Besides several children who died young, he had two sons, Thomas born 1755, and John born 17th October 1765; and a daughter Martha born 20th October 1761,[3] who married Rev. G. Pownall, and lived till 1838. John Twemlow died 27th August 1789. His elder son Thomas went to Liverpool, and became a ship-owner there. In 1796 he was one of the owners of the "Swallow" an armed brig carrying 18 guns, which was employed by the government upon various services. The letter of marque granted to John Mac Ivor her commander is given in Gomer William's "Liverpool Privateers," and dated 12th July 1796. A letter from this Thomas Twemlow to his cousin Thomas Twemlow of Peatswood, has been preserved, and is as follows:—

"LIVERPOOL,

24th May, 1810.

Dear Sir,

A vessell of ours was captured last month on her passage from Africa by a French corvette coming from the Mauritius to Bourdeaux, but very unexpectedly given up again to the master and crew. The captain of the Corvette made the master of our vessell give him a promise in writing that he would enquire after and do all in his power to obtain the liberation of a Mr. Lafitte, who is at present a prisoner in England, and I believe confined at Dartmoor.

Will you be so good to enquire if he is under your charge, and whether he is likely to be liberated soon, or not by the present exchange, which seems to have begun; because if not, I will apply to the commissioners and solicit

1. Earwaker's Sandbach, and Sandbach Register.
2. Pedigree of 1808.
3. Francis T.'s "note-book."

for his release in consequence of his having given up Mr. Athelstan Maurice (who was a passenger in our brig), and the vessell, instead of carrying them to France.

It is very doubtful whether my application may be attended with success; however, the promise of the master shall be made good by attempting it, if he is not included in the present exchange.

As it may be satisfactory for him to know that his friend has interested himself about him, please to send the enclosed note to Mr. Lafitte, and let it be intimated to him that in consequence of Capt. Lacazezaula's polite behaviour to the passengers and Master Connan, the owners of the brig "Cæsar," of Liverpool, will be glad to render Mr. Lafitte any service in their power towards his liberation.

In about a month I purpose rambling into Cheshire, when we may perhaps meet.

I remain,
Dear Sir,
Yours affectionately,
THOMAS TWEMLOW.

Capt. Twemlow,
R. Cheshire Militia,
Dartmoor, near Plymouth.

(Should Captain T. be absent, to be opened by Captain Parker."

The letter is endorsed, "Andre Lafitte, purser of 'L'Aventure,' discharged to France 28th January 1810."

The enclosed note runs as follows:

"Mon cher Lafitte, Je desire que l'exchange que je fais avec le Captaine Connan vous soit utile et que vous soyez rendu à votre chere Epouse et à vos amis, Le Capt. Connan m'a promis de faire tout ce qu'il serait possible pour vous faire renvoyé.

Adieu au plaisir de vous voir chez vous,
Ane Lacazezaula.

Monsr. Lafitte,
dans la prison de Dartmoor.

This Thomas Twemlow, who received a legacy of £4,000 from his uncle George Twemlow of the Hill in 1808, lived at Liscard near Birkenhead. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William Hamilton, of the family of Grange in Ayrshire, and had (besides several children who died young,) a son William Hamilton Twemlow, born 31st October 1801, who matriculated at Christ Church Oxford 3rd May 1819, and graduated B.A. 1823, and M.A. 1825.

Thomas Twemlow died 11th April 1826; and shortly afterwards his son William, who was in orders, married Ellen, daughter of Rev. Joseph Hordern (whose mother was Ann Ward, sister of Mary Ward, who married my great-

grandfather Thomas Twemlow in 1778). They had one son Walter Hamilton Twemlow born 29th April 1830, and three daughters, Emily, Georgiana (who married her cousin Col. George Hamilton Twemlow), and Mary (who married H. Huber and had issue).

William Hamilton Twemlow became rector of Babcary in Somersetshire. He succeeded to the Arclyd property on his father's death, and occasionally came to Sandbach to visit it. I remember his coming unexpectedly to the Hill when I was a boy. The house being full I had to give up my bedroom to him, and got into dire disgrace for allowing him to know it. His only son Walter Hamilton was an officer in the 27th Regiment (now the Inniskilling Fusiliers) and died in February 1873, unmarried. In consequence of this untimely death of the heir, the Arclyd property, which had been in the Twemlow family for 220 years, was sold in the following year. William Hamilton Twemlow died 9th April 1879.

John the younger son of John Twemlow of Macclesfield married 29th August 1791 Sarah daughter of John Twiss.

This John Twiss and his son of the same name did a large business as carriers. They had in 1802[1] waggons plying from the Potteries to all parts of England, and starting every day in the week ; and in that year they seem to have borrowed money from George and Thomas Twemlow to add to their plant.

John Twemlow, who in 1793 is described as a potter, of Shelton, subsequently turned his attention in the same direction. In 1802 he ran weekly waggons from Newcastle to Liverpool[2]; and in 1807 he was described as a "Carrier," and was living at Lawton in Cheshire, on the main road between Newcastle and Liverpool.

[3]On 4th September 1788, his Uncle Thomas being "Mayor," he "entered upon the Corporation and took the oaths." That is to say, he was admitted to the Hanley venison feast. He himself occupied the position of mock-mayor in 1795. (See Chapter III., under Thomas Twemlow.)

John and Sarah Twemlow had four sons and a daughter, viz. :

1. Genl. George Twemlow R.A. b. 20th November 1795, served in the Mahratta War of 1817, and died 2nd October 1877.

2. John Twemlow R.N. b. 11th November 1798, d. in Jamaica August 1825.

3. Samuel Twemlow b. 23rd March 1802, died in Calcutta 15th July 1825.

4. Henry Twemlow born 18th July 1807, died 11th August 1846.

The daughter Ann was born 12th March 1812, and married Rev. F. Forde rector of St. Peter's Chester, and had issue.

General George Twemlow married [4]Anna Maria Hannah, daughter of Edward D'Oyley of Sion Hill, Thirsk, Yorkshire, and had three sons and five daughters :

1. Directory of the Potteries, by J. Albert & Son.
2. Directory of the Potteries, by J. Albert & Son.
3. Hanley Venison Feast Records.
4. Peatswood Visitors' Book, 1845.

1. Col. George Hamilton Twemlow b. 2nd August 1826, and died in command of 80th Regt. in S. Africa, 9th November 1877. He married his cousin Georgiana Hamilton Twemlow, but they had no children.

2. Frederick Forde Twemlow m. Emily daughter of T. Tarleton, and had issue. He is a naturalised New Zealander, and has two sons, Frederick Tarleton and Harry Hamilton Twemlow (both of whom are married and have children), and three daughters.[1]

3. Major General Edward D'Oyley Twemlow R.E. b. 20th November 1840, m. 9th September 1874 Margaret Ann Blanche daughter of John Malcolm Corrie of Itchen Abbas, Hants, and has had three sons and four daughters:

1. William E. D'O. Twemlow b. 24th April 1875, living in Canada.
2. George Hubert Edgar Twemlow b. 24th June 1883, Lieut. 89th Punjabis, accidently shot at Mandalay 10th November 1905.
3. Alfred Wynne Twemlow b. 8th November 1894, d. 15th March 1902.

1. Jessie Kathleen Twemlow b. 24th June 1879.
2. Mabel Fanny Twemlow b. 6th December 1881.
3. Harriet Theodora Twemlow b. 22nd October 1886.
4. Victoria Margaret Twemlow b. 11th July 1892.

The five daughters of General George Twemlow were:

1. Emily Ann m. John Henry Orr C.B., and has issue.
2. Charlotte m. Lieut. W. P. Chapman R. E., and has issue.
3. [2]Annie Maria m. Major J. Rose of Kilravock, and has issue.
4. [3]Eliza Mary m. Major General R. M. Westropp.
5. [4]Sybella m. Col. Albany R. Saville 18th R.I. Regt., and has issue.

A pedigree of John Twemlow's descendants, for which I am indebted to Major General E. D'Oyley Twemlow R.E., is given.

Thomas Twemlow, who was head of the family from 1789 to 1826, obtained a grant of arms from the Heralds' College, and this is the coat now used by all Twemlows of the Arclyd branch of the family.

ARMS: *Azure, two bars engrailed or, charged with three boars heads couped and erect, two and one, sable.*

CREST: *A parroquet standing upon the stump of a tree, a branch sprouting therefrom, all proper.*

The pedigree of the Twemlows of the Hill, Sandbach, of Peatswood, and of Betley Court, will be found at the Heralds' College in "Norfolk," Vol. XIV. p. 13, and "Surrey," Vol. V. p. 294.

1. Mrs. Westropp's information.
2. Peatswood Visitors' Book, September, 1849.
3. Peatswood Visitors' Book, September 1849.
4. Peatswood Visitors' Book, December 1863.

END OF PART I.

PEDIGREE OF THE ELDER BRANCH.

John Twemlow, of Arclyd and Macclesfield, b. 7th Jan. 1731–2, d. 27th Aug. 1789, bur. Macclesfield. = Ann Walley, dau. of James Walley, Alderman of Chester.

- Thomas Twemlow, of Arclyd, and of Liscard, Co. Chester, and of Liverpool, b. 1755, d. 11th April 1826. = Elizabeth Hamilton, dau. of William Hamilton, of the family of Grange, Ayrshire.
  - John, George, Anne and Jane died young.
  - William Hamilton Twemlow, of Arclyd, Clerk, Rector of Babcary, Co. Somerset, b. 31st Oct. 1801, d. 9th April 1879. Vendor of Arclyd, 1874. = Ellen Hordern, only dau. of Rev. Joseph Hordern, Vicar of Rostherne, Co. Chester, and granddau. of Rev. Josh. Ward, of Prestbury.
    - Walter Hamilton Twemlow, b. 29th April 1830, d. Feb. 1873, S.P. of 27th Regiment.
    - Emily Hamilton Twemlow, b. 2nd Aug. 1827.
    - Georgiana Hamilton Twemlow, m. Col. George Hamilton Twemlow, 3rd Nov. 1860.
    - Mary Hamilton Twemlow, m. H. Huber, and had issue.
- John Twemlow, of Lawton, Co. Chester, b. 17th Oct. 1765, d. 6th April 1821. = Sarah Twiss, dau. of John Twiss, m. 29th Aug. 1791.
  - Martha m. Rev Dec.
  - Genl. George Twemlow, R.A., b. 20th Nov. 1795, d. at Poyle Lodge, near Guildford, 2nd Oct. 1877. = Anna Maria Hannah, dau. of Edward D'Oyley, of Sion Hill, Thirsk, d. 6th Dec. 1872.
    - George Hamilton Twemlow, Col. 80th Regt., b. 2nd Aug. 1826, m. his cousin, Georgiana Hamilton Twemlow, d. at King Williamstown, S. Africa, 9th Nov. 1877.
      - William E. D'Oyley Twemlow, b. 24th April 1875. Living in Canada, 1905.
      - Jessie Kathleen Twemlow, b. 24th June 1879.
      - Mabel Fanny Twemlow, b. 6th Dec. 1881.
      - George Hubert Edgar Twemlow, b. 24th June 1883, Lieut. 91st Punjabis, d. at Mandalay, 10th Nov. 1905.
      - Harriet Theodora Twem b. 22nd Oct. 1886.
    - Emily Ann, m. John Henry Orr, C.B., Madras, Army Medical Department. Has issue.
    - Charlotte, m. Lieut. W. P. Chapman, R.E. Has issue.
    - Anna Maria, m. Major J. Ross, of Kilravock, Co. Nairn. Has issue.
    - Eliza Mary, m. Major-Gen. R. M. Westropp.
    - Sybella, m. Colonel A. R. Savile, 18th Royal Irish Regt. Has issue.
    - Frederic living i 1905.
  - John Twemlow, R.N., d. in Jamaica, Aug. 1825.

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Part II.

THE WIVES.

CHAPTER VII.

JOHN TWEMLOW AND MARGARET CAGHOWE 1576, JOHN TWEMLOW AND MARY PODMORE 1627, GEORGE TWEMLOW AND MARY LINGARD 1654. *The Lingard family, perhaps connected with the Berringtons of Bradwall, Will of John Lingard 1592, Inventory of Katherine Lingard 1608, The William Lingards and their wives. Purchase of the Brook, difficulty of constructing Mary Lingard's pedigree, and of ascertaining the exact date of her birth, her mother, death of her father, administration of William Lingard of Arclyd dated 1647. Death of William Lingard the elder 1658, William Lingard Rector of Warmincham 1595—1620. John Lingard of Middlewich (died 1595), John Lingard of Sandbach (died 1670), Lingard pedigree.* JOHN TWEMLOW AND MARY POOLE 1698, THE POOLES OF HARDINGSWOOD. GEORGE TWEMLOW AND MARY PARROTT 1727. *The Parrott family.* THOMAS TWEMLOW AND MARY WARD 1778. *Joseph Ward and his friend Charles Legh of Adlington, their Correspondence, Joseph Ward's Culloden sermon 1746, his marriages and two daughters, his death 1772.*

THE EARLIER MARRIAGES.

1.

THE FIRST MARRIAGE that I have been able to find is that of John Twemlow and Margaret Caghowe, which was celebrated at Warmincham near Sandbach 2nd December 1576. Margaret Caghowe was baptised at Warmincham 19th February 1549, but the entry in the register does not say who her parents were. The name of Caghowe, however, is found frequently in the early registers both at Warmincham and Sandbach.[1] The latest entry that I have found at Sandbach is "Eliz. Cahowe de Warmincham widow buried 10th November 1632." I cannot find any of the wills of the Warmincham family at Chester, though there is one of Ranold Cahowe of Sandbach dated 1576. The origin of the name is obscure.[2] Can it be connected with "Cagot"; and did this woman belong to that curious "*race maudite*" from the Basque provinces? The Encyclopædia Britannica says, however, that the word "Cagot" is not met with in Bearn earlier than 1551: and we find the name Caghowe at Warmincham in 1549.

The family seems to be now extinct, unless the name has become corrupted and survives in some other form, such as "Coghill." People took great liberties with names in the 16th and 17th centuries, so that such a thing is conceivable. The name Caghill appears in a will at Chester dated 1575.

Margaret Twemlow was buried at Sandbach 19th February 1585, the 36th anniversary of her christening day.

1. In the Brereton Register I find the name, Ann dau. of Renald Caghowe christened 27th June 1568.
2. In Earwaker's East Cheshire, Vol. II., p. 379, a copy of a charter of about 1200 is given in which, as a witness, occurs the name of "Richard de Cagwr, then chamberlain."
   A place called Caughall Farm is mentioned in the Royalist composition papers, Lancashire and Cheshire Record Society's publications for the year 1883, p. 433.

2. The Second Marriage, that of the younger John Twemlow and Mary Podmore, took place at Sandbach 18th December 1627.

The Podmores are an old Sandbach family, the name occurring in the Parish Register in 1564. They lived at Little Hassall, which was pointed out to me by an old man named Podmore aged 77 years, who said that he was one of the family. The house, which is a modern one, stands on the right-hand side of the road leading from Hassall Moss to the Chemical Works at Malkins Bank. It was in 1905 owned by a Mrs. Timmis and tenanted by a man named Snelson, and had about 100 acres of land with it. The old man told me that it had been sold out of his family at the time of Napoleon's wars. He also said that his family had afterwards owned a farm at Hassall Green called the Cross Farm, which had an old half-timbered house upon it with $\frac{K.}{R.E.}$ 1639 carved over the porch. This house was undoubtedly built by Richard and Elizabeth Kettle. It now belongs to Mr. Wakefield of Sandbach; but papers at Delamere show that in 1838 it belonged to a man named Podmore so that the old man's story seems to be correct.

John Podmore, Mary's father, died in 1626. [1]His will tells us that he had three daughters, "Ellenor, Mary, and Doritie," to each of whom he bequeathed a feather bed. (In those days a feather bed was worth 40 shillings). We also learn that he had borrowed money from John Twemlow, the repayment of which is provided for.

The name of Podmore occurs in John Twemlow's will of 1659, but I have not come across it in any family paper of later date.

3. The Third Marriage, that of George Twemlow and Mary Lingard, dated 7th August 1654, is more interesting. This union brought the Brook House at Arclyd into the Twemlow family, in which it remained for 220 years. It will be described in a later chapter.

The earliest Lingard of Arclyd that I have been able to trace, is John Lingard, who died in 1592. His wife's name was Katherine, and she lived at Arclyd till her death in 1605. She may have been one of the daughters and co-heiresses of William Berington of Bradwall; the other two being Helen (the heiress of Bradwall) who married Phillip Oldfield, and Margaret who married Richard Wood of Hall o' Wood in Balterley. Ormerod (who married Sarah Latham of Bradwall, and took a special interest in the former owners of that place) wrote to my great uncle Thomas Twemlow as follows, 16th September 1818.

"In revising the proof sheet which contains the pedigree of Berington of Bradwall, I observed Katherine one of the co-heiresses married John Lingen of Arclyd about 1580. As I conceived this to be a clerical error of Randle Holme who drew the pedigree from deeds, I have added after it (Lingard?) in the manner here written. If this man was of your family, of which I have little doubt, it might be worth your brother's pains to continue the search into his pedigree a generation or two higher, as this marriage, if you descend from it, would give you the quartering of Berington, Grosvenor, Venables and several other considerable Cheshire families."

1. At Chester Probate Registry.

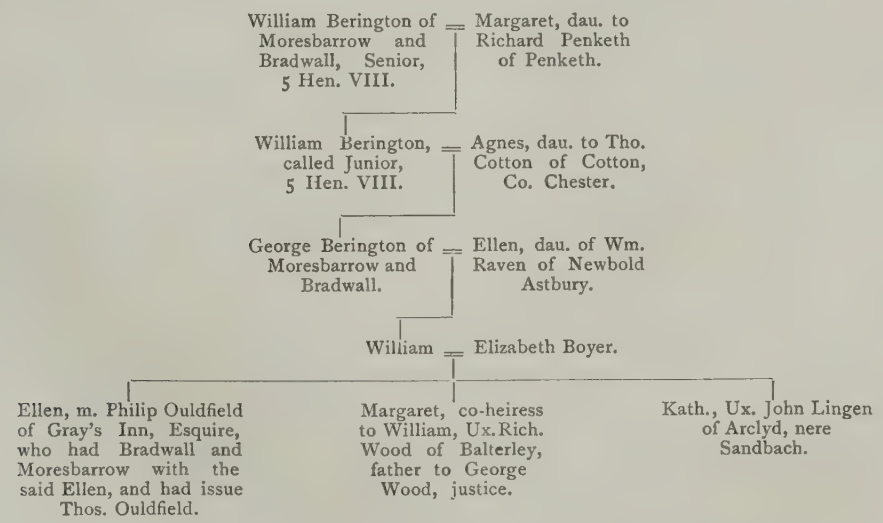
I do not know whether my grandfather acted on the suggestion or not, there is no record of his having met with any success in that direction, though he was probably able to get access to the old deeds relating to Arclyd, which seem to have disappeared since the land was sold in 1874, at any rate I have been unable to trace them.

I have, however, done my best to collect information, with the following results:

First, I think there is no doubt that Ormerod was right in supposing that Lingen stood for Lingard; but it is hardly a clerical error on Randle Holme's part, for the two names seem to have been for centuries inter-changeable, just as in Shropshire Blandford and Blantern are used indifferently in speaking of the same person.

In the Sandbach manor records at the Grosvenor library at Chester, I find about the year 1580, "John Lyngam de Artlyde," evidently the man whose name occurs in the pedigree. Also in the M.S. book of Cheshire Inquisitions post mortem, of about the same date as Randle Holme's pedigree, the name "Lingard" appears in the index; but on turning to the page given, the subject of the inquest (dated 1505) is described as "Wr de Lyngen." And again in the Betchton Court Roll of 1760 the list of jurors contains the name of "William Lingham," but the presentment is signed "William Lingard" by the man in question.

Secondly, I have seen Randle Holme's pedigree of the Berington family, dated 1631, which Ormerod referred to in his letter to my great uncle, and in which the names of the three co-heiresses occur. It is at the British Museum Harl. M. S. S. 2038 f. 95. The following is an abstract of the part which concerns us.


William Berington of Moresbarrow and Bradwall, Senior, 5 Hen. VIII.
Margaret, dau. to Richard Penketh of Penketh.
William Berington, called Junior, 5 Hen. VIII.
Agnes, dau. to Tho. Cotton of Cotton, Co. Chester.
George Berington of Moresbarrow and Bradwall.
Ellen, dau. of Wm. Raven of Newbold Astbury.
William
Elizabeth Boyer.
Ellen, m. Philip Ouldfield of Gray's Inn, Esquire, who had Bradwall and Moresbarrow with the said Ellen, and had issue Thos. Ouldfield.
Margaret, co-heiress to William, Ux. Rich. Wood of Balterley, father to George Wood, justice.
Kath., Ux. John Lingen of Arclyd, nere Sandbach.

On the back of the pedigree are some depositions, by old men who had long known the family, as to the legitimacy of some of the junior branches. One

of them who had been a tenant for fifty years, says that Philip Ouldfield, late father to Sir Philip Ouldfield, Knight, deceased, "married Ellen, *one of the daughters and heyres* of the said William Berington of Bradwall."

Earwaker, however, in his history of Sandbach p. 130, positively states that "William Berington had an only daughter and heiress, Helen, who occurs with him in a fine levied 28th February 11th Elizabeth (1569) relating to the manor of Bradwall, and of lands, tenements, rents, etc., in Bradwall, Sandbach, ARCLID, Brereton, Hulme, Hollins, and Warmincham." At this time Helen, or Ellen Berington was already married to Philip Ouldfield, and two of their children Joan and John were buried at Sandbach 18th March 1571.

Their only surviving son Philip was baptized at Middlewich; but a memorandum in the Sandbach register, which I have seen, in recording his baptism describes his mother as "Daughter and heir apparent (Filia et heres apparens) of William Berynton of Bradwall Co. Chester gentleman."

If Earwaker is right, and the entry in the register seems to favour his contention, then Randle Holme and his ancient tenant must have been wrong about the co-heiresses. But this seems almost inconceivable. And it is of course possible that Helen, who inherited Bradwall, might be described by a later writer as her father's heir, notwithstanding the fact that she had sisters who inherited other portions of their father's estates.

Unfortunately, the marriage of John and Katherine took place before the Sandbach registers begin; otherwise we should not be left in uncertainty about Katherine's maiden name. The wedding must have taken place about 1560 or 1561, and the birth of the eldest son about 1562. The registers begin on 1st January 1563 (N.S.), and the first Lingard entry is the baptism of James, the second son, 6th June 1563. The name of Berrington or Berington was not uncommon in the district, occurring with special frequency in the Brereton registers. We shall meet with it again later on. It seems likely that all the branches were offshoots from the old trunk which belonged to Bradwall and Moresbarrow.

John Lingard was buried at Sandbach 26th October 1591, and his will was proved at Chester 7th April 1592.[1] His wife Katherine was sole executrix and residuary legatee, and his brother William[2] (the future rector of Warmincham, as I suppose) was one of the overseers.

Katherine died intestate, and apparently at Arclyd, and was buried at Sandbach 8th November 1605. Administration was not taken out till 31st July 1608, and then it was granted to her fourth son Anthony. Her inventory is given in Appendix E. iii. Her eldest son William is somewhat of a mystery, there is something strange about him; he seems to have been a kind of Esau "au petit pied." He was not executor of his father, who only left him two shillings, or administrator of his mother. And his son seems to have bought the "Brook" in his lifetime without reference to him. There is nothing to show that he ever took

1. Given in Appendix E. i. It has suffered a good deal from damp, and is partly illegible.
2. William Lingard, Rector of Warmincham, was born in 1546. John need not have been more than five or six years older, if he married young.

up his abode at Arclyd. He must have married about 1588 a woman whose Christian name was Emily. They had three sons, William, Francis and Anthony, the latter of whom seems to have died young.[1] William, the father, seems to be the man who was buried at Sandbach 22nd September 1616, as "William Lingard senior," he being then about 54 years of age. I shall return to his widow and younger son by and by; but first as to the elder son William, baptised 1st October 1589. This youth, shortly after he came of age, that is on 22nd September 1611, married Ellen Berrington. If she was the girl of that name, baptized as daughter of Roger Berrington,[2] 5th April 1585, she was more than four years older than her husband. William and Ellen had a large family between 1612 and 1627.[3] The eldest child, William, was baptized 13th July 1612, and the youngest, Ellen, 23rd April 1627, the same day on which Ellen the mother was buried. Besides the children baptized at Sandbach, there appears to have been a son Edward christened elsewhere. In the same year that he married, and possibly with his wife's dowry, this young William Lingard purchased the "Brook" at Arclyd. See chapter IX, art 2. It is not absolutely certain, but I think it may be taken for granted, that it was the same place where John and Katherine had lived fifty years earlier; and that what William did was to buy the freehold of what had long been held on lease.

In August 1620 William Lingard, rector of Warmincham, died. By his will, which is given in Appendix E. ii., he gave a number of specific legacies, including a silver spoon apiece to William Lingard the elder and his wife Ellen. His residuary property he gave to be divided between William Lingard of Arclyd the younger, and William Turner son of John Turner the testator's nephew.[4] William Lingard the younger also received the best waggon, and divided the other waggons and the implements etc. with Randle Lingard. He also received the rector's silver tun—probably a barrel shaped tankard,—the rector's own pillowchest, and the bedstead in the new building chamber.[5]

It may seem to the reader strange that these things should have been left to a boy only eight years old, instead of to his parents. But the old bachelor seems to have been fond of young folks and anxious to assist them. This boy married young and died before his father; so the bequest was of use to him. Randle Lingard and William Turner[6] were just of age at this time, having been baptized respectively in February and March 1599.

The Rector also left legacies to "Em. Lyngard widow and Francis her son," which seems to identify these two people as the widow and son of the elder William. Emily Lyngard, widow, was buried 20th December 1634.

1. In the Sandbach Register occurs the entry: "Anthony, son of Anthony Lingard, buried 22nd October 1600." Anthony Lingard, who married in 1597, does not seem to have had a son Anthony. But William had a son Anthony baptised 2nd Sept. 1595.
2. There is in the Probate Registry at Chester a Will of Roger Berrington, of Sandbach, proved in 1613. But he does not mention a daughter Ellen, only one named Elizabeth.
3. This sequence of children is connected with the Arclyd Lingards by the evidence of the tombstone of one of them, Dorothy, wife of William Hartley. She is described as "daughter to William Lengard of Arclude." Earwaker's Sandbach, page 41.
4. At this time a nephew was often called a "cousin," as in this Will.
5. These seem to have been the "plums." The pillowchest, as I guess, still survives, and is in Mrs. Kennedy's possession. It is elaborately carved, and a fine piece of furniture.
6. A family named Turner lived at the Lyn-house, a farm in Betchton, about two miles from Arclyd, in the 17th century, and a William Turner owned land in Arclyd in 1671.
   It will be remembered that the Lyn-house was afterwards bought by Thomas Twemlow. See Chapter III.

I now return to William Lingard, purchaser of the "Brook." After the death of his wife Ellen in 1627, he perhaps married again in the following year; a marriage being registered between William Lyngard and Ellen Kinsey, 27th February 1628. The Kinseys were a well known local family, and Earwaker devotes a good deal of space to them.[1] This Ellen died in 1648. William Lingard himself died in September 1658, and was buried at Sandbach on 13th. As to this there is no room for doubt, the Sandbach Register being corroborated by Harl. M.S. 2151, which says, "Will Lingard of Arclit the elder buried the 11th[2] of September 1658." His will is not to be found; and we have nothing to add to what Ormerod says,[3] viz. that on the marriage of his grand-daughter Mary, his Arclid property was settled and entailed on the issue of the marriage.

We now have to find out what we can about his grand-daughter. And first of all as to her father. I think there is no doubt that he was the William, son of William Lingard, who was baptized at Sandbach 13th July 1612. Then as to his marriage. There is an entry in the Sandbach register[4] of William Lingard and Catherine Wright married 21st December 1634, which looks tempting. But it will not do, for Catherine died in 1670 in her husband's lifetime, and the latter seems to have died in 1674; whereas the William Lingard that we are in search of died before 1658. A William Lingard married Elizabeth Lockett of Betchton 3rd July 1835; which seems a likely alliance, especially as her sister Jane married William Turner of the Lyn-house in 1622.[5] But this woman died only four or five months after her wedding, being buried 28th November 1635, childless. I believe William Lingard the father of Mary married a woman whose name was Mary,[6] about the year 1637, and had a daughter born early in 1638. There is a baptismal entry at Sandbach, "Mary daughter of William Lingard baptised 24th February 1638."[7] There is a similar entry for the same date in the following year, which I take to be a vain repetition on the part of the copyist of the register. But if that is not so, the second Mary may have been the daughter of the William and Catherine above mentioned. If the first date is right, as I am taking for granted, then Mary was 16½ years old when she married, which was quite young enough. But Mary's age, as given on her tombstone,[8] seems to show that the writer of the epitaph calculated it from the second entry, and not from the first. And such a mistake would seem quite natural in working backwards up the register.

A William Lingard was buried at Sandbach 17th October 1639, who I take to be Mary's father. And on 12th April 1640, a William son of William Lingard was baptized. This posthumous boy would, I conclude, have been heir to the "Brook," if he had lived; but on 7th June following "William son of the late William Lingard" was buried. And so Mary became sole heiress of her grandfather.

1. History of Sandbach, p. 256.
2. Perhaps he died on that day; or the Roman figure for 13 in the Register may have been mis-read 11.
3. Vol. III., p. 117. The date of Mary's marriage given there is wrong.
4. It is dangerous to rely on entries in Registers, unless they are corroborated in some way. There were several families of Lingard in Sandbach parish, besides many others in the neighbourhood, at this time. At present the name of Lingard is rare in Sandbach, if not entirely absent.
5. Kelsall.
6. Perhaps Elizabeth Lockett was the first wife, and this Mary the second.
7. 1637 old style.
8. Buried 8th March 1712 (N.S.), in the 74th year of her age. See Earwaker's Sandbach, p. 41.

Amongst the papers in the bishop's registry, over the Abbey gateway at Chester, I found the administration of William Lingard of Arclyd, dated 7th October 1647. If this, as I suppose, related to the man who died in 1639, the interval was considerable. [1]But I do not think the objection is fatal, for we have seen that in ordinary times there was a delay of more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ years in administering Katherine Lingard's estate; and between 1639 and 1647 times were not ordinary in Cheshire, the unfortunate County Palatine being used as a cockpit by the opposing forces of King and Parliament, and everything in confusion. These administration papers are faint and not easy to read, but I have done my best with them, and the result is given in Appendix E. iv. Whether the father of Mary died in 1639, or whether he died later and was not buried at Sandbach, is questionable[2]: but there can be little doubt that the administration papers of 1647 refer to him. A further corroboration, if any were needed, is supplied by the fact that one of the valuers of the goods and chattels was William Hartley, who had married Dorothy Lingard, sister of the deceased; it being quite in accordance with custom for a relative to be selected for this duty.

The value of the property was very trifling, as we should expect, taking into consideration the disturbed times, and also the fact that the father of the deceased was still living. But the books, pictures, etc., show that the owner was a man of education and refinement; and there are bedsteads and chests of some value, which may have come from Warmincham rectory. The silver tun does not appear; probably, like most other plate at this time, it had been melted down. We learn that the widow's name was Mary, and that she renounced administration. Why it was not granted, as we should expect, to the father, we are not told. It was entrusted to Edward Lingard brother of the deceased. I have not found the baptism of this Edward at Sandbach. Probably he came between his second brother John, baptised 27th February 1614, and his sister Mary, baptised 29th September 1618, and was baptised elsewhere. He wrote a very good hand.

The administration papers show that William and Mary Lingard had a little house of their own at Arclyd, and did not live at the Brook with the elder William[3]; and that Mary lived on there after her husband's death. The hearth tax lists of 1664 go a step farther, and tell us that Mary Lingard the widow continued to live there after the marriage of her daughter, and the death of her father-in-law. Apparently she died in 1665, for a Mary Lingard widow was buried 31st July in that year; and also, in 1668, when the hearth tax returns were next corrected, George Twemlow paid the tax assessed on her house as well as that on the Brook.

George and Mary were married by banns on 7th August 1654, and had a numerous family, as has been related in Chapter II. At first, they seem to

1. If I am right in supposing that Mary Lingard, the widow, had a confinement in April, 1640, and afterwards lost her baby; the original delay in taking out administration is accounted for. Afterwards, it may have been hoped that the informality might be overlooked, and the "death duties" saved, as the estate was so small.
2. If he had lived longer, it is likely that there would have been more children.
3. That would be natural, if the elder William had married a second wife.

have lived with George's parents; at any rate in a deed of 1655[1] George is described as of Betchton. In 1658 old William Lingard died, and old John Twemlow followed him a year later. Presumably George and Mary then moved to Arclyd, and perhaps George's mother went with them. At any rate she seems to have left Betchton, for I have not come across the name of Twemlow in any of the occupiers' lists of that township, between the time of John's death in 1659, and the marriage of his grandson Josiah in 1703. During those forty-four years the old Twemlow home at Betchton was let to tenants, but I have not found out what their name was.

I add a few notes about the Rector of Warmincham and other Lingards. And an account of the home of the Lingards at Arclyd will be found in Chapter IX., part 2.

William Lingard the rector of Warmincham, who died in 1620 aged 74, seems to have been the "well-beloved brother of William Lingard" who was appointed an overseer of John's will in 1592. At that date he was not at Warmincham, for in the new edition of Ormerod the date of his presentation to the living is given as 1595.

His epitaph on a small brass plate in Warmincham Church is as follows:—

"Here William Lingard's body lies
Late Parson of this Place
Whose Soul in Abraham's Bosom Rests
Through Christ's Merits and Grace.
Amongst his Good Deeds Manifold
Inscribe this on this Stone
What Coste and charges he was at
Upon a Neighbour's sonn.
First at the Schoole, then at Cambridge
Then with his People here,
Where He him kept God's will to Preache
The space of Sixteene yeare.
Then full of Dayes and of the Age
Of seventy yeares and Fouer
Was here interred when Cruell Death
Would let him live no more.
viz August XVIIIt. 1620."

His will was made four days before his death and is given in Appendix E. ii. several of its provisions have been already referred to.

From it we learn that the name of his protégé and curate was Conway.

In October 1583 the jury of the Sandbach manorial court presented[2] "John Lyngart" and "William Lingart, clerk," together with 30 other respectable residents for "bowling upon the common green or commons."

1. Quoted in the Chancery proceedings of Twemlow v. Proudlove, dated 1688-9, at the Public Record Office.
2. Manor book at Chester, quoted by Earwaker, p. 8.

[1]In 1595 John Lingard of Middlewich made a will by which he left his leasehold house to his wife Alice and his daughter-in-law Margaret Beardmore, providing that, in case they could not agree to live together, Alice should have the lower end and Margaret the upper. He mentions a payment to "Wydowe Lyngard of Arclyd" for wood, and another one for a "Rocke" (? ruck) in Warmincham, from which it would seem that he was one of the family and had bought "cord wood" from his relatives for salt boiling.

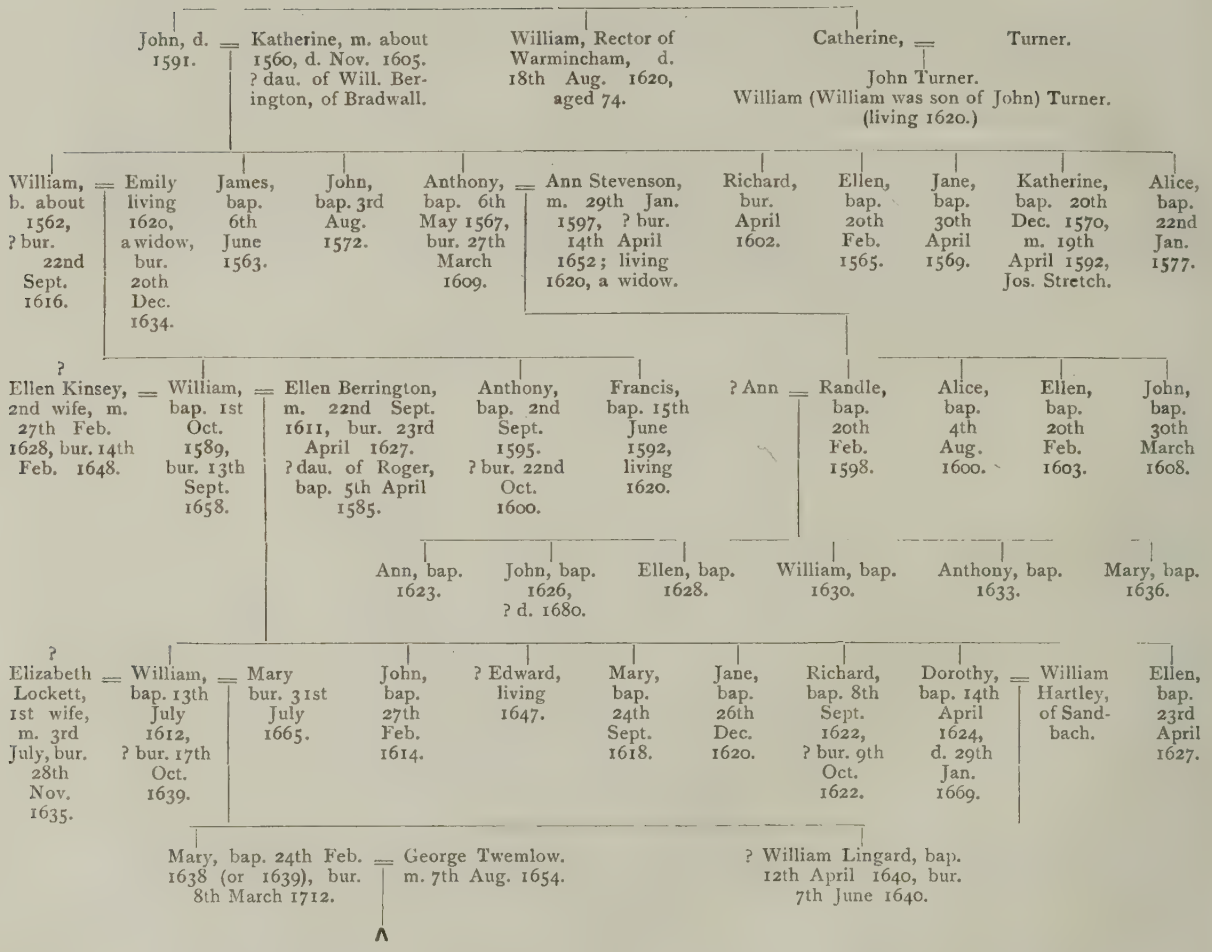
[2]John Lingard of Sandbach by his will dated June 1670, appointed George Twemlow of Arclidd, William Berrington, and William Hartley of Sandbach, his kinsmen, his executors. This man was probably the younger brother of our Mary's father, and baptised 27th February 1614. But he might have been the son of Anthony, baptised 30th March 1608.

The name of Lingard seems to be extinct in Sandbach parish at the present time, at any rate I have never come across it.

Randle Holme, in his Academy of Armory and Blazon written in 1682, mentions an armorial family of Lingard, which bore Azure a bend between two columbs (? column shaped) salts with open covers Argent.

1. Chester Probate Registry.
2. Chester Probate Registry.

LINGARD PEDIGREE.


John, d. 1591.
Katherine, m. about 1560, d. Nov. 1605. ? dau. of Will. Berington, of Bradwall.
William, Rector of Warmincham, d. 18th Aug. 1620, aged 74.
Catherine, = Turner.
John Turner.
William (William was son of John) Turner. (living 1620.)
William, b. about 1562, ? bur. 22nd Sept. 1616.
Emily living 1620, a widow, bur. 20th Dec. 1634.
James, bap. 6th June 1563.
John, bap. 3rd Aug. 1572.
Anthony, bap. 6th May 1567, bur. 27th March 1609.
Ann Stevenson, m. 29th Jan. 1597, ? bur. 14th April 1652; living 1620, a widow.
Richard, bur. April 1602.
Ellen, bap. 20th Feb. 1565.
Jane, bap. 30th April 1569.
Katherine, bap. 20th Dec. 1570, m. 19th April 1592, Jos. Stretch.
Alice, bap. 22nd Jan. 1577.
? Ellen Kinsey, 2nd wife, m. 27th Feb. 1628, bur. 14th Feb. 1648.
William, bap. 1st Oct. 1589, bur. 13th Sept. 1658.
Ellen Berrington, m. 22nd Sept. 1611, bur. 23rd April 1627. ? dau. of Roger, bap. 5th April 1585.
Anthony, bap. 2nd Sept. 1595. ? bur. 22nd Oct. 1600.
Francis, bap. 15th June 1592, living 1620.
? Ann
Randle, bap. 20th Feb. 1598.
Alice, bap. 4th Aug. 1600.
Ellen, bap. 20th Feb. 1603.
John, bap. 30th March 1608.
Ann, bap. 1623.
John, bap. 1626, ? d. 1680.
Ellen, bap. 1628.
William, bap. 1630.
Anthony, bap. 1633.
Mary, bap. 1636.
? Elizabeth Lockett, 1st wife, m. 3rd July, bur. 28th Nov. 1635.
William, bap. 13th July 1612, ? bur. 17th Oct. 1639.
Mary bur. 31st July 1665.
John, bap. 27th Feb. 1614.
? Edward, living 1647.
Mary, bap. 24th Sept. 1618.
Jane, bap. 26th Dec. 1620.
Richard, bap. 8th Sept. 1622, ? bur. 9th Oct. 1622.
Dorothy, bap. 14th April 1624, d. 29th Jan. 1669.
William Hartley, of Sandbach.
Ellen, bap. 23rd April 1627.
Mary, bap. 24th Feb. 1638 (or 1639), bur. 8th March 1712.
George Twemlow. m. 7th Aug. 1654.
? William Lingard, bap. 12th April 1640, bur. 7th June 1640.

4. THE FOURTH MARRIAGE, that of John Twemlow and Mary Poole was solemnized at Wolstanton in Staffordshire, 29th December 1698.[1]

James Poole, the father of Mary, lived at Hardingswood near the present Harecastle railway junction. The Pooles were yeomen, and seem to have been settled at Hardingswood for some time.[1] Randulph Poole served as churchwarden for Hardingswood house in 1656. And in the list of wardens for 1677 occurs the entry "Jacobus Poole pro domo Hardingwood." In 1690 Thomas Lawton was "Overseer for Mr. Pool's new house."

Dr. Plot in his history of Staffordshire written in James II.'s reign quoted Mr. Poole of Hardingswood as an authority on coal mining and the geology of the coal measures, "a person very skillful in these matters." [2]And he says that he himself "went down into one of these 'HANGING MINES' at Hardingswood belonging to the aforementioned Mr. Poole of this county." Apparently in those days only the surface coal was worked.

James Poole married Elizabeth Tagg[3] at Wolstanton 1st February 1677, and his daughter Mary was baptized there 21st December 1680.[4]

He made his will 11th July 1719, and it was proved at Lichfield 7th May 1724. By it he left legacies to his grandchildren George, Joseph, John, Elizabeth, Mary and Hannah Twemlow. He does not mention his daughter, and she may have been dead then; but I have not been able to find any entry of her burial.

5. THE FIFTH MARRIAGE, that of George Twemlow and Mary Parrott,[5] or Parratt, of Sandbach took place 9th July 1727. A settlement was made, of which certain provisions are copied into Francis Twemlow's notebook. I do not know that Mary brought anything to our family which still remains; unless it might be a Queen Ann tankard which has M.P. on the handle. But there is no evidence to support this conjecture. The family name of Francis, which had been in use amongst the Parrotts for four generations, was adopted by the Twemlows, who have also borne it for four generations.

Kelsall in his M.S. book devotes a good deal of space to the Parratt's; and a later hand, which I take to be that of John Fenton of the "Steps," has supplied further information. In Kimber and Johnson's Baronetage of 1770, Vol. III., p. 458, under "Sir Richard Perrott, Baronet," more particulars are given; but a good deal of chaff is mixed with the grain. The following account is the best that I can give. John Parrott of Crewe married Joan Boughey at Barthomley 24th October 1574. They had sons Richard, Francis, and Robert; but we are only concerned with the first. Richard Parrott, baptised 3rd September 1579, had no issue by his first wife Jane Malbone; but by his second wife Ellen, daughter

1. Wolstanton early registers. The name of Twemlow occurs frequently in the registers between 1625 and 1700.
2. P. 130.
3. I have not often come across this name. In the Cheshire Docket book at the Pub. Record Office, I find that in 1733 Thomas Tagg and John Wilson, gentlemen, suffered a recovery of lands in Congleton, John Twemlow, gent., being demandant.
4. These entries are taken from Kelsall's copy of the Register. The original has suffered much from damp.
5. She was baptised at Sandbach, 14th March 1701, and buried 14th October 1752.
It would seem that the dates given on her tombstone are wrong. See Earwaker's Sandbach, p. 41.

of Thomas Sidway, and widow of Thomas Steele of the Lane, Barthomley, he had six sons. Of these John and James left no issue, but Richard baptised 15th February 1613 went to Sandbach and founded that branch of the family. The next son Thomas baptised 1614 was ancestor of the Parrotts of Newcastle under Lyme; Matthew baptised 1618, was the father of the Matthew who married Sarah Walley of Lightley Hill near Sandbach[1]; and Francis baptised 1620 who married Ann, daughter of Robert Whitehall of Bignall Hill in Audley parish, and widow of William Stonior of the same place, and left numerous descendants. These included the local chronicler Francis Parrott of Bignall Hill,[2] who married Alice daughter of John Bourne of Newcastle, and died without issue in 1734; and Richard who married Rebecca daughter of Isaac Wyke of Wacton Court Herefordshire, and was the father of Sir Richard Perrott, baronet, who distinguished himself in the Prussian naval service during the seven years' war. This baronetcy is still in existence.[3]

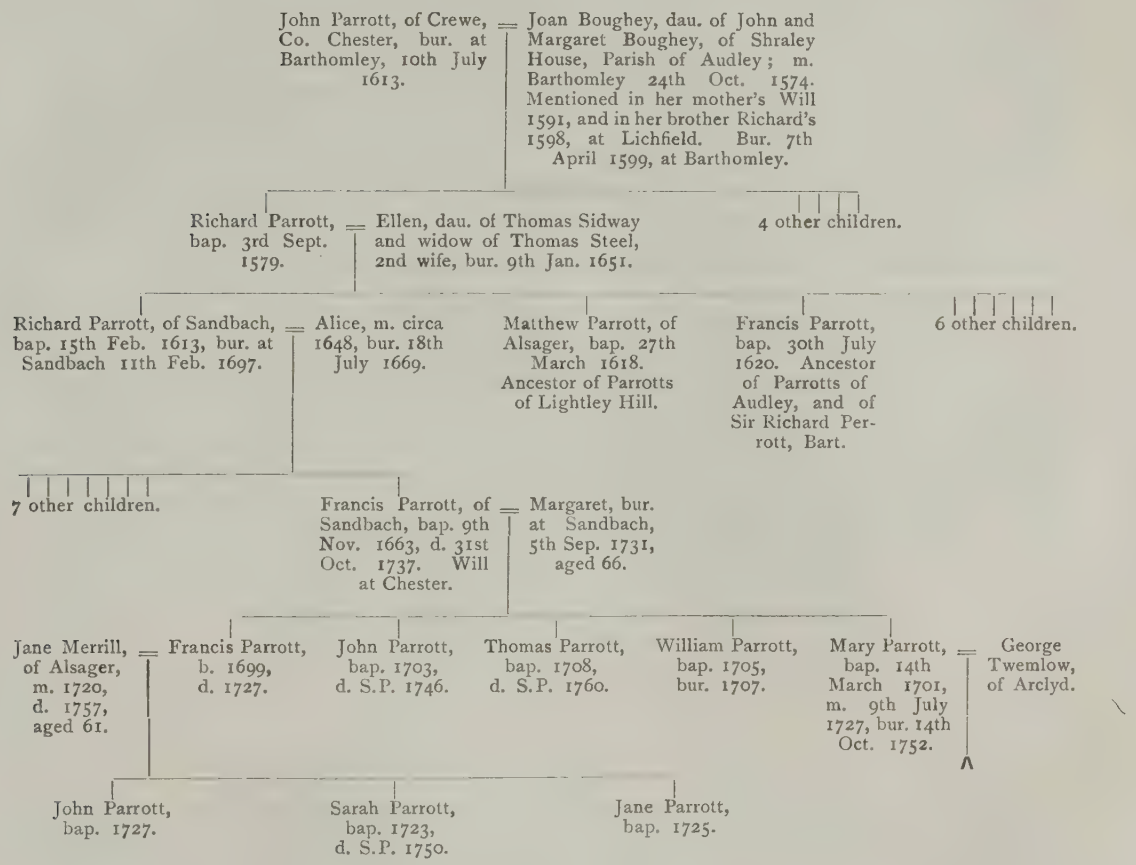
To return to the Sandbach branch, Richard Parrott married a wife named Alice; Kelsall did not know her maiden name, and I have not been able to ascertain it. The eldest child Ellen was baptised in 1649 and seven others followed, viz.: Thomas, Richard who died young, Jane, John, Eleanor, Francis, and a second Richard baptised in 1668. Alice the mother died July 1669, and Richard her husband in 1697. Francis the fourth son, baptised 9th November 1663, was the father of Mary. His wife's name was Margaret, but I have not found out her maiden name or when the marriage took place.

They had several children besides Mary including three sons, Francis, John and Thomas; but, so far as I have been able to ascertain, none of them have left any issue. Mr. Parrott died in 1737 and his will is at Chester. The children of George and Mary Twemlow have already been enumerated in Chapter III., so that it is unnecessary to say more about them here; nor is it necessary for me to refer again to George's second marriage with Martha Lees, as they had no children.

1. See below, Chap. IX., art. 4, and Earwaker's Sandbach, p. 23. This family is now extinct.
2. Mr. Parrott's M.S. book was in Mr. William Salt's collection, but cannot now be found.
3. I do not go into the questions as to whether Sir Richard Perrott was of kin to Sir John Perrott, Lord Deputy of Ireland in Queen Elizabeth's time, or as to the date of the baronetcy. The reader will find them discussed in Kimber and Johnson's Baronetage, Vol. III., 458.

PEDIGREE OF PARROTT, OR PARRATT FAMILY.

AUTHORITIES :—KELSALL'S LOCAL GENEALOGIES, PARISH REGISTERS, PAPERS AT PEATSWOOD.


John Parrott, of Crewe, Co. Chester, bur. at Barthomley, 10th July 1613.
Joan Boughey, dau. of John and Margaret Boughey, of Shraley House, Parish of Audley; m. Barthomley 24th Oct. 1574. Mentioned in her mother's Will 1591, and in her brother Richard's 1598, at Lichfield. Bur. 7th April 1599, at Barthomley.
Richard Parrott, bap. 3rd Sept. 1579.
Ellen, dau. of Thomas Sidway and widow of Thomas Steel, 2nd wife, bur. 9th Jan. 1651.
4 other children.
Richard Parrott, of Sandbach, bap. 15th Feb. 1613, bur. at Sandbach 11th Feb. 1697.
Alice, m. circa 1648, bur. 18th July 1669.
Matthew Parrott, of Alsager, bap. 27th March 1618. Ancestor of Parrotts of Lightley Hill.
Francis Parrott, bap. 30th July 1620. Ancestor of Parrotts of Audley, and of Sir Richard Perrott, Bart.
6 other children.
7 other children.
Francis Parrott, of Sandbach, bap. 9th Nov. 1663, d. 31st Oct. 1737. Will at Chester.
Margaret, bur. at Sandbach, 5th Sep. 1731, aged 66.
Jane Merrill, of Alsager, m. 1720, d. 1757, aged 61.
Francis Parrott, b. 1699, d. 1727.
John Parrott, bap. 1703, d. S.P. 1746.
Thomas Parrott, bap. 1708, d. S.P. 1760.
William Parrott, bap. 1705, bur. 1707.
Mary Parrott, bap. 14th March 1701, m. 9th July 1727, bur. 14th Oct. 1752.
George Twemlow, of Arclyd.
John Parrott, bap. 1727.
Sarah Parrott, bap. 1723, d. S.P. 1750.
Jane Parrott, bap. 1725.

6. The Sixth Marriage is that of Thomas Twemlow and Mary Ward solemnized at Prestbury near Macclesfield, Cheshire, 21st September 1778.

Mary was the younger daughter and co-heiress of the late Reverend Joseph Ward, M.A., who had been vicar of Prestbury 1738-72.

Her elder sister Ann married Peter Hordern, and was the mother of the Reverend Joseph Hordern, vicar of Rostherne Cheshire 1821-55; who visited Peatswood in July 1848, and whose daughter Helen married Rev. William Hamilton Twemlow. Mr. Ward was the son of Mr. Joseph Ward and Hannah his wife, who lived at Rostherne at a house known as "Percival's tenement" (Hannah Ward's maiden name was Percival).[1] He was born in 1711,[2] and was educated at Wadham College, Oxford, a Whig Oasis in a Tory university,[3] matriculating 12th December 1729, and graduating B.A. 1733 and M.A. 1736. He was presented to the living of Prestbury by Mr. John Legh of Adlington on 5th October 1731. Mr. Legh died in the following year, but his son Charles Legh (the last of the direct male line of his family) who succeeded him, was the lifelong friend of Joseph Ward. They were both good and upright men, magistrates, staunch Whigs and strong Protestants, as well as genial and lively companions. Charles Legh used to send to Joseph Ward each year on his birthday some verses, a number of which I have. He also wrote to consult him about various matters, such as his son's bringing up; and sent him a number of humorous verses on political and other topics. Here are some samples:—

Extract from a letter dated Bath 5th December 1716:

"Mrs. Cotton, sister to Sr. Lynch, hearing me talk of curing ye head ach, etc., sent me a red paper cap, pretended to be impregnated with drugs of Arabia so potent as to prevent and cure all ills incident to ye Human Capital; this wonder-working cap extorted ye enclosed which I have taken the liberty of sending, as a sample how this water effects the Pericranium of yr old friend."

"Many thanks for your red paper conjuring cap
To secure my old pate from internal mishap.
But how to repay? I am there in sad taking,
In debt over head and ears, sleeping or waking.
But musing or dreaming, in paper or cotton,
The gift nor your name shall ne'er be forgotten."

"London,
11th Mar. 1762.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for ye very obliging Lr., I stayed 3 weeks and a few days at Kingston, where ye time passed along very agreeably. I went with Mr. Rowlls[4] on a tour to Eton where we dined; we went to see ye College, ye new

1. Hannah was bapt. 30th Oct. 1681, daughter of James Percival.
2. Bapt. 1st August.
3. "Wadham College, Oxford," by T. G. Jackson, p. 115, etc. In 1754 a scholar was expelled for wearing Tory colours at an Election. Ibid, p. 120.
4. Mr. John Rowlls, of Kingston, Surrey, married, about 1752, Elizabeth Davenport, niece and eventually heiress of Charles Legh. "Master Rowlls," their son, took the name of Legh, and married, in 1773, Harriet Warburton, of Arley. (Earwaker's East Cheshire, Vol. II., 252).

Library, and to ye Boarding house where Master Rowlls is: we saw Mr. Norbury, 2 sons of Mr. Leycester, and young Tom Assheton; they (ye Boys) Master Rowlls, and 3 more younkers dined with us: ye 2d Master of ye School, Dr. Dampier went with us to ye College, ye Library &c., he is a polite good man. We returned to Kingston in ye Evening; I was highly pleased with that day's expedition; ye sight of Eton, ye boys at play &c., rejoiced ye Cockles of my heart, and wrought so strongly on my imagination, yt I almost fancied myself what, and where I was, near half a century ago. On Tuesday was sen'night we got to London; and found all my old friends, whom I have seen, in good health. I have not time to write down any occurrences here, wch I hope I shall have ye pleasure of communicating, in a few days, *viva voce.* I congratulate you on our good prospect of success at Martinico. We hear no more of ye Cock Lane Boggart; perhaps it is gone down to Bollington to confer with its Fellow Member of ye Spiritual Regions, who by this time may have taken a flight from Cheshire; and if so, it will not be easy to determine where they may hold their Conference. We have at present ye depest snow ever known in London, and it freezes very hard. It has snowed more or less almost every day for 6 weeks past. I am called off so can only add my hopes of a speedy happy meeting between you and Dear Vic's Most Faithful Fd. and obliged Humble Servant C. LEGH.

All here join in compliments and best wishes to you and Mrs. Ward and yr. daughters.

The Family at Kingston are much yrs. The D. of Bridgwater has carried his point in ye H. of Comons; and it is thought will meet with no opposition in ye other house.[1]

The Report, some time ago, of ye K. of Prussia, in regard to losing his Intellectual Faculty, proved groundless; tho' when I mentioned it to you, it was generally believed. They talk of Peace in Germany, but of this, as yet, there is no certainty. I hope ye Turnpike from Bullock's Smithy to Sand will turn out well for our country. Mr. Legh of Lyme and his sister Anne set out for Bath last Monday. Mrs. Legh is in Town.

ON YE PEACE, 1762.

France, duly drubb'd preferred her artful Suite
In form of Peace an offering to Lord Bute
Done, quoth ye Scot; if I but blow my whistle
Proud England's Rose shall truckle to ye Thistle
Which stands recorded, from ye days of Yore
For dear affection to ye Louis D'or.

1. This must refer to one of the Bridgwater Canal Schemes. The original canal was opened in 1760. See Aikin's History of Manchester.

A CALL FOR A FARRIER TO THE HANOVER HORSE, 1763.

The Hanover Horse has been taught a new Jig,
To prance at a Tory, to kick at a Whig.
This wonder of wonders was made to prevail
By a plaguey Scotch Thistle clung close to his Tail.
Such a Page[2] from ye Nag, he that rightly can sever,
Shall shine the Prime Farrier of England for ever.

In November 1745 the young Pretender and his army were at Macclesfield, on their way to Derby, and they returned by the same route in December. Their presence must have been an inconvenience, to say the least of it, and, though we are assured by historians that their proceedings were regarded by the mass of the population with indifference, they certainly caused feelings of consternation and terror to many of the country folks, who looked upon the highlanders as savages and even cannibals. Consequently people in East Cheshire were much relieved when the news arrived of the victory of Culloden. Mr. Legh broke forth into verse as follows:—

A SONG ON THE DEFEAT OF THE REBELS.

To crush Rebellion and set Britain free
Victorious William Heav'n reserved for Thee.
Vain are Rome's Hellish Politics, in vain
Audacious Treason heads ye perjur'd Train:
The sons of Britain still are Free as Air,
Still is their Freedom Providence's Care.

Chorus.

Thy Trumpet sound Immortal Fame,
Exalting William's glorious name,
Grateful to every British Ear,
Next to their native Freedom Dear.

O'er Highland Mountains topt with winter snow
The Royal Hero drives ye Savage Foe:
Now comes ye welcome word, Fall on, He crys,
The call is Honour, Liberty ye prize.
Eager ye gallant soldiers snatch ye call
And slaughtered Rebels but too nobly fall.
Thy Trumpet sound, &c.

To thee we owe yt Peace and Plenty Smile,
To thee yt happier suns rejoice our Isle,
To thee ye blessings of a gentle Reign,
And ye full liberty we still maintain.
Hark! the wide welkin echoes to thy Praise,
Kind Heav'n add many to thy glorious Days.
Thy Trumpet sound, &c.

2. A bramble entangled in a lady's skirt is meant. In Cape Colony the same thing is called a "Widower."

In the "Historical Memorials of the Church at Prestbury" by James Croston, F.S.A., this writer of genial doggerel is thus referred to. "He is described as a person of austere and somewhat eccentric habits, and it is said that it was his daily practice to perambulate the boundaries of his Estate." Perhaps the austerity and eccentricity may have developed themselves during his later years, when his life had been saddened by family troubles.

Mr. Legh, who was born 4th October 1697, died at Buxton 26th July 1781.

The battle of Culloden was fought 16th April 1746, and Thursday 9th October was the day appointed to be kept as "a General Thanksgiving to Almighty God for the suppression of the late unnatural Rebellion." On that occasion Joseph Ward preached a Sermon in Prestbury Church, which was printed at Mr. Legh's request and I have a copy of it.

The text was from Psalm 107, v. 2. "*Let them give thanks whom the Lord hath redeemed, and delivered from the hand of the enemy.*"

After premising that gratitude is a debt due for all benefits, and that it increases in proportion to the value and numbers of the favours received, he proceeded to enlarge upon the troubles and calamities from which his countrymen had been delivered by the termination of the war in British Isles, and upon the consequences which must have ensued had the rebellion continued, and the rebels finally prevailed. He went on as follows:- "Tho (through the good providence of the God who ruleth over all, and stilleth the madness of the people) very few of our own countrymen were so unfortunately wicked as to join the rebellious crew in their triumphant progress from the capital of Scotland to the centre of this kingdom; yet many thousands of the King's faithful subjects were insulted, robbed and plundered; many lost their properties, some their lives; great numbers were exiled from their own habitations; commerce was obstructed, and by that means labour and industry (the great support of the bulk of the nation) were put to a stand, and many families reduced to want and misery; all this calamity, and much more, was brought upon our country by the violence and outrage of these sons of Belial. You all know these things, many of you felt a share of the common misery, and many more, I fear, will continue to feel it for a long time to come. But had the same ill fate attended our troops in the last engagement, which in the two former, through a concurrence of unhappy causes, had given the adversary but too much reason to rejoice; what, in all human probability had been the consequence, but all the horrors and calamities of a civil and intestine war? Had victory declared for the enemy, 'tis scarce to be questioned but all their concealed friends would have taken all imaginable pains to improve the advantage. They would have dropped the mask, sounded their trumpet aloud, called forth their timorous confederates to open arms, animated and confirmed the wavering, and discouraged as much as possible, all that wish well to the *Peace and Prosperity of our Jerusalem.*

This is no groundless conjecture; their conduct both before and since the happy day of our deliverance, gives us the greatest reason thus to think, and thus to speak. For did they not daily and industriously magnify the wisdom, the numbers and the courage of our enemies? And how willing do we find them,

even now, to extenuate, nay, to excuse, every act of barbarity and cruelty they have committed? But how sparing of their praises! I had almost said how liberal of their reproaches! as often as they take occasion to speak of the glorious instrument of our deliverance. How bitterly do they lament the fate of those *few* state criminals (as if they had been so many saints and martyrs) who have received the just reward of their *ungodly deeds;* without ever dropping a tear, or expressing the least compassion for *the hundreds* of the king's faithful subjects and soldiers, who fell gloriously, but most unjustly, by the hands of these ruffians in the field of battle? But, for God's sake, what had been the consequence of the success of these men's designs? What, but a general insurrection, houses demolished, towns and cities laid in ashes, and (such is the infatuation of Englishmen, of men who ungratefully *use their liberty for a cloak of maliciousness!*) fathers divided against the sons, and sons against their fathers, sheathing their swords in one another's bowels, and a mournful *Rachel weeping* in every corner *for her* slaughtered *children, refusing to be comforted, because they were not.*

But the calamity (great as this would have been) had not stopped here. Not three, nor four, nor perhaps twenty victories in favour of rebellion would have determined finally the fate of these kingdoms. For so long as one spark of English fire, kindled by the glorious spirit of liberty: so long as one drop of true English blood had remained amongst us, what would not honest Englishmen and Protestants have suffered? How many battles would they not have fought? What blood would they not have spilt? How dear they would have sold their birthright, their darling liberty (the distinguishing glory and happiness of Britons) before they had submitted their properties to the precarious decisions of an arbitrary judge, and their consciences to the management and direction of those *blind guides, who continually lie in wait to deceive.* And we are greatly mistaken, if we suppose that the Protestant Powers of Europe, or any other powers that are embarked in the same common interest, would have stood neuter in the bloody quarrel. The fate of Great Britain is an affair of too great importance not to affect, not only the men of property at home, but likewise all those foreign nations that are enemies to the exorbitant power of France. And therefore had this accursed Rebellion still continued triumphant, thousands and tens of thousands of foreign troops had been poured in upon us, and our country laid waste, and our plenty devoured, not only by the northern army (like swarms of consuming locusts), but also by friends and enemies promiscuously, and this *fruitful land* had unavoidably been *made barren* and desolate *for the wickedness* of those ungrateful and seditious wretches *that dwell therein.*

Then the days of misery and Vengeance had overtaken us in good Earnest, and we had certainly been of all other people and Nations upon Earth, *the most miserable.*

"*Let them give thanks, therefore, whom the Lord hath redeemed, and delivered from the Hands of the Enemy.*"

He went on to show that had the Rebellion proved finally successful, our Religion and Liberties had most certainly been lost for ever. And, after paying a tribute to the Royal Army, concluded with an appeal to his hearers to be moderate in their rejoicing, and to do all in their power to restore unity.

The language of the Royal Army drew from him this remonstrance :

[1]" *O that the Muse would call without offence !*
The gallant soldier back to his good sense,
His temporal field so cautious not to lose
So careless, quite of his eternal foes.

Soldier, but why so tender of thy fame ?
Why so profane of a superior name ?
For the King's sake the brunt of battle bear,
But for the King of Kings' sake do not swear."

Other sermons of Mr. Ward were printed. See Earwaker's E.C. pp. 209-10.

The Prestbury registers tell us that he was married 10th September 1742, to Mary Wilkinson, heiress to Joseph Wilkinson of Prestbury, gentleman,[2] that his daughter Ann (who married Peter Hordern) was born 7th October and baptized 3rd November 1743, and his daughter Mary born 13th January, and baptized 14th February 1746.

They further tell us that on 3rd July 1751, Mary his wife was buried in the Church (in templo). Her age is not stated, but the 1808 pedigree at Peatswood gives it as 25. If that is correct she was born in 1726, and was barely 17 when she married. Her mother's name was Ann, and she was the daughter of Thomas and Mary Dean.[3]

On June 1756 Joseph Ward married again, his second wife being Dorothy daughter and co-heiress of Roger Roydon of Macclesfield. There appears to have been no children of this marriage, and Dorothy Ward survived her husband,[4] and was his administratrix, Peter Hordern[5] and Thomas Monkhouse of Prestbury, clerk, being joined with her in the bond. (Mr. Monkhouse was curate of Prestbury from 1770 to 1813).[6]

Mr. Ward died 7th February 1772, and was buried at Prestbury. Prescott's Journal, a Manchester newspaper thus described him : " He was a learned and eloquent preacher, a polite scholar, a mild and just magistrate, a tender husband, a kind and benevolent master, a sincere friend, and deservedly lamented by the many who had long experienced his diffusive charity."

Earwaker in his History of East Chester published in 1880 says "on the North wall of the Chancel is a small brass to the memory of his first wife, and a mural tablet bearing a brass plate, on which is the following inscription :—

" Sacred to the Memory of the Reverend and Learned Joseph Ward, A.M., formerly of Wadham College, in Oxford, and Vicar of this parish 33 years. He acted many years with great reputation as a Justice of the Peace for this

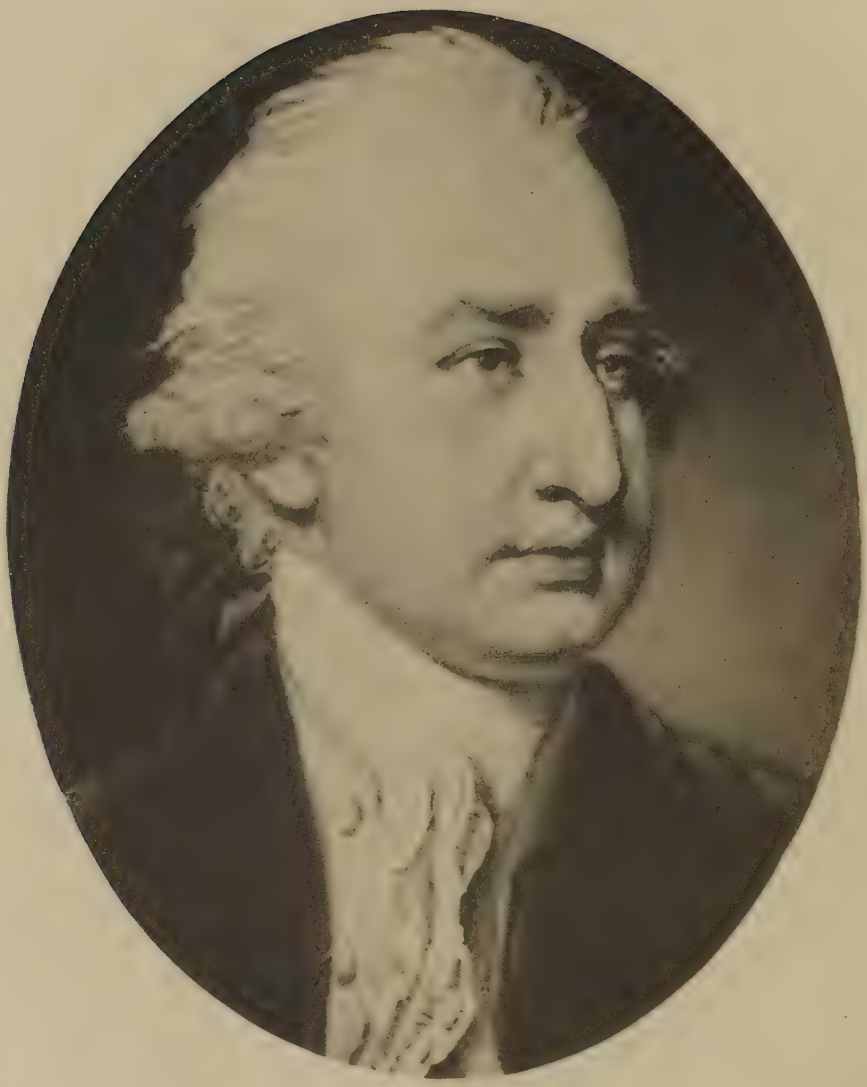
1. M.S. at Peatswood.
2. Mr. Wilkinson died in January 1771, and his Will is at Chester. He was buried at Prestbury, on 30th January. His Will was proved 14th May 1772, by his widow.
3. The Deans lived at Woodford, near Prestbury. Mr. Dean died in 1737, and his will is at Chester.
4. Mr. Wilkinson left her a legacy. Her Will was proved at Chester in 1793.
5. Admon, at Chester.
6. Earwaker, E.C., Vol. II. 212.

County. In his Sacred Character, he was to his flock a faithful monitor, a zealous and excellent preacher of truth and righteousness; a worthy example for all social, moral, and religious duties, in the constant practice of which he spent his life. Reader, go and do thou likewise. He died universally lamented, February 7th 1772, in the 61st year of his age."

But alas! when the Chancel was restored about the year 1882, these monuments were adjudged unworthy of preservation, and not a trace of them now remains.

Mr. Ward's Folio Bible, annotated by him, is at Peatswood. His silver spoons, &c., remained at the Hill during the time of his daughter and grand-daughter. They are now at Betley Court.

The Prestbury Register records that on 21st September 1778 Thomas Twemlow of Stoke-on-Trent Staffs. Gent. and Mary Ward of the Township and parish of Prestbury Spr. were married by Licence by Peter Mayer Vicar. John Twemlow the brother of Thomas lived at Macclesfield; and Thomas may have met Mary when visiting him. John was one of the witnesses of the marriage settlement. At the time of the Wedding Thomas was 40 years old, and Mary 32.



Sir Thos. Fletcher, Bart.
From a miniature.

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CHAPTER VIII.

FRANCIS TWEMLOW AND ELIZABETH FLETCHER 1814, *Fletcher family, early alliances with Fenton and Boughey families. Sir Thomas Fletcher's career. Lady Fletcher, their daughter Elizabeth.* THOMAS TWEMLOW AND HARRIET FRANCES TOWNSHEND 1828. *Townshends of Wincham.* FRANCIS CRADOCK TWEMLOW AND CHARLOTTE WILBRAHAM 1848. *General Richard Egerton's verses. The Wilbraham family, the "Counsellor" (1694—1770), his son Richard marries Mary Bootle 1755, Mary Bootle's ancestry, Tookes and Lethieulliers, children of Richard and Mary. Edward, first Lord Skelmersdale (1771—1853), RandleWilbraham, of Rode (1773—1861), his first marriage (1798) with Letitia Rudd, their children* MARY LETITIA, RANDLE *(1801—1887),* EMMA LADY EDMONSTONE, *Randle Wilbraham's second marriage (1808) with Sibylla Egerton, her parentage and brothers and sisters, Randle Wilbraham's second family,* CHARLES PHILIP *(1810—79),* RICHARD *(1811—1900), serves in Persia, Syria, and the Crimea, his later life and descendants,* FRANCIS HENRY RANDLE *(1819—1900),* SIBYLLA ELIZABETH, HENRIETTA, FRANCES MARIA, EMILY, *and* CHARLOTTE, *the family travels in Italy, etc., 1822—5, extracts from the Diaries of Fanny and Charlotte, Charlotte marries Francis Cradock Twemlow, her little manuscript book called "The Family Sketch," Lord Skelmersdale's illness at Rode 1851, death of Charlotte Twemlow 1852. Last years and death of her father, his widow and daughters move to Chester, Martha Cratchley, John Harvey, Fanny and Emily's work at Chester. The Cholera of 1866, death of Mrs. Wilbraham 1868. Fanny as an authoress. Fanny and Emily's last years and deaths, Royal descents of the Egertons. Marriage of* THOMAS FLETCHER TWEMLOW *and* ELIZA ANN PAYNTER 1849, *and of* JOHN FLETCHER TWEMLOW *and* JESSIE BARBARA ARMITSTEAD 1871. *The Armitstead family. The Duckworths. Admiral Sir J. T. Duckworth, born 1748, parentage, early services, with Lord Howe, in 1794, in the Mediterranean and West Indies, at Constantinople, Governor of Newfoundland, correspondence with Lords Lansdowne, Nelson, St. Vincent, and Hood, Lady Nugent's diary. The Dardanelles expedition, second marriage 1808, Baronetcy and arms, Napoleon at Plymouth, the Admiral in Parliament, purchases Wear House, Devon, death 1817. The second Sir John Duckworth (1809—87). His public and private life, marriage and children. His death and those of his wife and children. The Lewis family.*

THE NINETEENTH CENTURY MARRIAGES.

1.

THE marriage of FRANCIS TWEMLOW and ELIZABETH FLETCHER took place at Betley 21st June 1814, Francis being then in his 31st year and Elizabeth in her 29th. Elizabeth was born 6th November 1785 at Newcastle-under-Lyme, in the house which is now the National Provincial Bank. Her father, Sir Thomas,[1] removed to Betley when she was about seven years old; and he died there in 1812. Her brother, Sir John, had

1. For the pedigree and arms of Sir Thomas, see the record at the Herald's College, Vol. XX. p. 175.

changed his name to Boughey in 1805,[1] and shortly after gone to live at Aqualate, which had been renovated and enlarged from the designs of Nash, the architect of Regent Street. The discussion between Sir John and my grandfather over the settlements was, according to my father, of the briefest: "Well Frank, my sister's fortune is so much. You put the same to it. Now let's go to lunch."

As already said in Chapter IV. Francis and Elizabeth Twemlow lived at Betley Court from the time of their marriage, with Lady and Miss Fletcher, the former of whom died in 1821, and the latter in 1848. With regard to the Fletcher family, they originally belonged to Earl Sterndale near Hartington in Derbyshire, where they held property in the reign of Charles II. and probably much earlier.[2] (For some account of Earl Sterndale, and the Fletchers, see Appendix I.) This estate still belongs to the Aqualate family. Thomas Fletcher, born 23rd January 1717, died 4th November 1783, seems to have been the first of the family to settle at Newcastle-under-Lyme. He became a burgess 21st August 1739, and was in business partnership[3] with a cadet member of the Fenton family—John son of Daniel Fenton of Cheddleton—whose daughter Elizabeth he married 18th September 1740. Mrs. Fletcher was born 6th October 1717, and died at Bath 15th June 1775. Her mother was Alice Boughey, of the family which was settled at the Knoll in Audley parish[4] in the reign of Henry VIII.

Thomas and Elizabeth had, besides other children who died unmarried, a son Thomas born 25th November 1747, who became a burgess of Newcastle by right of birth 7th October 1774. He married, 8th May 1781, Anne daughter of John Fenton of the "Steps" in Newcastle, by his wife Anastasia Cradock. And, on the death of his father-in-law in the following year, succeeded to his house and position, becoming from that time the leading man at Newcastle. He carried on business as a banker, at the "Steps." He served as sheriff for the county in 1788; and aspired to represent Newcastle in Parliament. Hitherto it had been a pocket-borough of the Leveson-Gower family[5]; but he contested it in 1790, and was only beaten by two votes, and again in 1792 when he was beaten by five. He made further efforts, but was never returned. His son, however, sat for the borough in 1812. In 1798 Thomas Fletcher commanded the Newcastle Volunteers; and in that year Mr. Pitt recognised his public spirit and made him a baronet. About 1792 he went to live at Betley; and about 1805 he purchased Aqualate for his son, who went to live there in 1809. He died suddenly at Betley 14th July 1812.

He was a great Tory, an active magistrate, and no doubt a bit of an autocrat; his portrait, with large aquiline nose, and rather severe looking eyes, gives one that impression. But his character had its softer side, he was musical and played the violin. Judging by his works that have come down to us, one would say that the bent of his mind was more towards the practical than the artistic.

1. See Herald's College, Vol. XXIII. p. 167.
2. John, Thomas, and William Fletcher were all copyholders at Earl Sterndale, at the end of the reign of James I. Court Rolls of the manor of Hartington.
3. Robert Fenton's M.S. book at 1867, at Peatswood, p. 436.
4. George Boughey, who left his property to Sir Thomas Fletcher's son, belonged to another branch of the family, which was at the *Wall*, also in Audley, in 1551, according to Kelsall. See Appendix K.
5. Aikin's History of Manchester, published 1795, p. 514.

Dame Anne Fletcher, wife of Sir Thomas.
From a miniature.

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Of his wife I do not know a great deal, but the little I have learned is entirely to her credit. Her mother writes of her in 1785: "I have very fine grandchildren, and am likely to have the number multiplied.[1] Mrs. Fletcher has good health, and in my opinion makes one of the best wives I have ever observed, nor am I singular in that opinion."

She survived her husband nine years, and towards the end of her life amused herself by studying the family history. She read Kelsall's manuscript book on the Audley families, and made some valuable comments upon it. She says that her grandfather (John Cradock) had told her mother that Kelsall's statements could not always be relied on (this by the way is putting John Cradock's opinion very mildly). And she took upon herself to expunge certain passages in the book; but as she noted on a slip of paper what these suppressed portions were, no great harm has been done. Lady Fletcher's portrait is at Betley, and shows that she had a pleasant face. Of my grandmother I cannot say very much. She was an excellent wife and mother, and much esteemed and beloved by those who came in contact with her. Needlework was her great accomplishment; and she used to sit with a large frame before her on which her material was stretched, producing elaborate patterns for fire screens, cushions, etc. She was very kind to her grandchildren.

I do not know when the acquaintance between my grandfather and grandmother began, or whether there was a long courtship. My grandfather was a visitor at Betley Court early in 1811, before Sir Thomas Fletcher's death, and he and Sir John Boughey seem to have hunted together with the Cheshire hounds.

I have only concerned myself here with my grandmother's family on her father's side. An account of her maternal ancestor's, the Fentons and Cradocks, will be found in the article on Betley Court in Chapter IX.

I should add that there are two portraits of her at Betley, one in oils painted when she was quite young. The other in water colours, by F. Cruikshank, when she was about 55.

1. My grandmother was born 6th November in that year.

PEDIGREE.

William Fletcher, of Earl Sterndale, Co. Derby. Probably the son of William Fletcher who bought land there in 1675. Bur. at Hartington 6th Aug. 1714.

= Anne, dau. of John Rouse, of Over Whittle in the Parish of Sheen, Staffs., m. at Hartington 5th Nov. 1693. Her will dated 1723. Proved 1st June 1727.

(John Rouse's Inventory dated 4th January 1693.)

Thomas Fletcher, of Earl Sterndale, bur. at Earl Sterndale, 1731.

= Lydia, dau. of Robert Mellor, of Alsop in le Dale, Co. Derby, m. at Hartington 7th Dec. 1714. In 1749 she was Lydia Heathcote, widow, formerly wife of Mr. George Heathcote, of Buxton.

William Fletcher. living 1723.

Thomas Fletcher, of Earl Sterndale and Newcastle U.L., b. at Earl Sterndale 23rd Jan. 1717, d. 4th Nov. 1783, bur. Newcastle.

= Elizabeth Fenton, dau. of John Fenton, of Newcastle U.L., Mercer. Born 6th October 1717, m. 18th Sep. 1740, d. at Bath 15th June 1775, bur. at Newcastle.

Thomas Fletcher, of Newcastle and Earl Sterndale, created a Baronet, 24th Aug. 1798; b. 25th Nov. 1747, bur. 14th July 1812, at Betley.

= Anne Fenton, dau. of John Fenton, of Newcastle, by his wife Anastasia, dau. of John Cradock, of Betley; b. 25th Oct. 1751, m. 8th May 1781, d. 22nd Oct. 1821, bur. at Newcastle.

Sir John Fenton Boughey, 2nd Bart., b. 1st May 1874, d. 27th June 1823. Took the name of Boughey 1805.

= Henrietta Dorothy Chetwode, m. 8th Feb. 1808, d. 22nd Jan. 1849.

Anastasia Fletcher, b. 29th Nov. 1782, at Newcastle, d. unmarried, at Betley, 15th April 1848.

Elizabeth Fletcher, m. 21st June 1814, to Francis Twemlow at Betley. She was born 6th Nov. 1785, d. 18th July 1863.

Elizabeth, daughter of Sir T. Fletcher, and wife of Francis Twemlow.

From a picture at Aqualate.

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Harriet Frances, wife of Thomas Twemlow.

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2. The marriage of THOMAS TWEMLOW and HARRIET FRANCES TOWNSHEND has already been referred to in Chapter IV.

The Townshends of Wincham are a younger branch of the Townshends of Trevallyn Co. Denbigh; who derive their descent from Sir Robert Townshend, who was gentleman of the Privy Chamber to King Charles II., and took the name of Townshend instead of his own, which was Agborough. Harriet's father was the first Townshend of Wincham, which came to him under the will of Hester Leigh of Adlington. Wincham now belongs to his great-great-grandson, Edward Lee Townshend.

When they married Thomas was forty-six years old, and Harriet thirty-nine,[1] and it is probably true that the attachment on his side was of long standing. But the story that he proposed to her seventeen years running at Chester races must be accepted with reserve.

3. The marriage of my father and mother, FRANCIS CRADOCK TWEMLOW and CHARLOTTE WILBRAHAM, was solemnised at Astbury, the parish church of Rode, on 11th January 1848; and was the beginning of a very happy connexion. For our Wilbraham relations have always been kind, sympathetic, and helpful in every way.

It was celebrated at the time by one of the bride's uncles Richard Egerton, who, in addition to being a poet and a wit, was a Lieut.-General, a C.B., and a Peninsular and Waterloo veteran. He lived at Eaton Banks (now Arderne Hall) near Tarporley. His verses refer to the armorial bearings of the two families, and are as follows :—

NIXON'S LAST PROPHECY.

When the wolf of odd Rode who still looks amazed
At having his head so roughly erased,
Shall—advancing politely—with three wavy bends,
Appear very desirous to welcome his friends;
When the Boar's heads of Arclyd, which for years have not failed,
Shall thrust their black snouts through their gold bars engrailed.
When a Parrot shall perch on the Stump of a Tree,
And shall talk and shall chatter, "Oh, pretty Party,"
Then the houses of Wilbraham and Twemlow together
A wedding will have, whate'er be the weather.
The Boar's heads shall enquiringly ask with a grunt,
"Will your chief, Master Lupus, come down with the "Blunt"?[2]
The Wolf, who's as wary as any Coif'd Sergeant,
Replies—"you've the Bars Or and we've the Field Argent,
So together no doubt it will be in our power,
With these metals to make up a competent Dower,
Since all Heads must approve of a marriage between
Your good Master Frank and our dearest Carline!

1. She was born 8th May, 1789.
2. Slang for *Money*. "The blunt's going like the Ward pump," Disraeli's "Coningsby."

Only one thing I'll add. Should you wish any more
Be so good to remember our house has still four,
We've Harriet, Sibylla, Françoise and Emile
Who, to men wanting wives would be worth a great deal."
"*Hold! Hold!*" *cries a Boar's Head,* "*that never will do,*
To marry your four and to leave out our two,
Though I say it that should not, I freely confess
Few maidens excel Anastasia and Bess.'
This conference o'er, the Heads started away
To make preparations for the Wedding Day,
In token of which we've now met in this room,
To drink to the health of the Bride and Bridegroom.

The same genial and facetious "Uncle Dickie" designed a gate for his garden with its centre formed of three arrows, the Egerton crest; and apologised for "arrogating so much." He also disconcerted a young lady who had expressed the opinion that aides-de-camp were like poodle dogs, by telling her that he had been "first poodle-dog" to Lord Hill at Waterloo.

It is also said that in his old age when he had become very bald, the Duke of Wellington remarked that it was lucky General Egerton wore spectacles otherwise no one could have told the front of his head from the back.

The history of the Wilbraham family, so far as this book is concerned, divides itself into three sections; first the mediæval, that of the parent stock which finally settled down at Woodhey near Nantwich; secondly that of the Nantwich offshoot from it, starting from the reign of Elizabeth and going down to that of George II.; and lastly that of the Rode branch, which separated from the last-named in 1732.

Section I.

For the early history the reader is referred to Ormerod's Cheshire, 2nd Edn., Vol. III.; from which I only extract the concluding paragraph, and a note, from page 378.

"The memory of private worth seldom survives the contemporaries of its possessors, but this is not the case with the Wilbrahams of Woodhey. Wherever it is possible to glance beyond genealogical deductions and obtain a knowledge of the individual representatives of the family, they appear to have been graced with every social virtue that could render rank endearing to their equals, and venerated by their dependents, and their family is rarely noticed in the Cheshire collections without ardent expressions of respect and affection."

Note: "There is a singular absence from the rolls of the county of the name of this family in almost every age, in connection with "recognizances to keep the peace"—of so very common occurrence in most of the families of this shire in those warlike ages. The consequence of this absence is that the name Wilbraham in its various forms is met with in the rolls but seldom, considering the extent of their estate from the time of Henry VI."

Lieut.-General Richard Egerton, C.B., 1783—1854.

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Section II.

Ormerod has also written about the Wilbrahams of Nantwich; but a fuller and more accurate account of them is given in Hall's History of Nantwich, p. 424; which begins with Richard Wilbraham, who built Townsend House between 1571 and 1580.

What I have to add about this Richard and his descendants, Thomas, Roger and Randle, will come in under the head of "Betchton," Chapter IX., s. i.

Section III.

The third section now remains, the account of the three Randles and two Richards, who were squires of Rode from 1732 to 1900.

The first Randle was baptised at Astbury 27th March 1694, having been born at Rode, where his father (whose name was also Randle) lived for seventeen years,[1] before succeeding to Townsend House at Nantwich. His mother was Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Brooke of Norton. He had three elder brothers, two who died young; and Roger, the ancestor of the Wilbrahams of Delamere, who inherited the Nantwich and Betchton properties. He matriculated at Brasenose in 1711, and was called to the bar 1718, on which occasion the fees amounted to £36.[2] He became eminent in his profession, and the law text books quote his opinion as the best authority on various points not covered by judicial decisions. I propose to call him "The Counsellor" to distinguish him from other Randle Wilbrahams.

The family tradition is that he was an ardent Tory, and that he defended some of the Jacobites when they were put on their trial after the "Forty-five." I have found no evidence that this is so, everything points to a contrary conclusion. In the first place I have searched Howell's "State Trials" in vain for any mention of his name. Secondly, in 1745 the Counsellor was M.P. for Newcastle, a pocket-borough of Lord Gower who was a strong Hanoverian and a member of the government. Thirdly, Randle Wilbraham himself, according to the "London Gazette" of 2nd November 1745, attended at Court and presented on behalf of his constituents a loyal address to George II., in which occurs the following passage: "It is with horror and detestation that we hear of those rebellious attempts in Scotland, calculated to overturn at the same time the present happy establishment of the crown as well as the liberty and religion of these Kingdoms." Fourthly, in 1747 he was elected member for Appleby, which seems to have been another Whig borough, for which a Leveson-Gower sat 1748-90, and this would hardly have happened one would think if he had shown Tory leanings in 1746. At the same time it would be rash to say that the tradition is necessarily untrue, for political principle in the eighteenth century was very elastic. The Counsellor's son and grandson sat for Whig pocket-boroughs, but apparently they were both Tories.[3]

1. Evidence as to the Tithe calf at Rode.
2. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.
3. Hemingway (History of Chester, Vol. II. p. 401) says that Richard Wilbraham Bootle was a Tory in 1784. And his son Edward was made a peer by the Duke of Wellington. Yet the former sat for Chester in the Grosvenor interest, and the latter for Newcastle-under-Lyme in that of the Leveson-Gowers.

Rode[1] was left to the Counsellor by his father in 1732, but I do not know how much he lived there. His wife was buried at Astbury 1754; but his legal work and parliamentary duties must have kept him a great deal in London. He married 24th August 1722, at Tarporley, Dorothea, daughter of Andrew Kenrick barrister[2] of Chester; and besides his eldest son Richard, who succeeded him, he had a younger son Roger who died in London, aged 14, and four daughters, one married to Charles Gray, M.P. for Colchester, and another to John Ford, barrister of the Middle Temple.

[3]He sat in parliament for Newcastle-under-Lyme 1740-7, for Appleby 1747-54, and for Newton, Lancs. 1754-68.

[4]He was treasurer of Lincolns Inn 1754, D.C.L. 1761, deputy steward of the University of Oxford, and Vice Chamberlain of the County Palatine of Chester. I found two of his written opinions amongst Mr. Broughton's papers at Tunstall, one dated 1746 and the other 1761. Another one, which I found at Aqualate, is given in Appendix F. i.

He built the present house at Rode about the middle of the 18th century, and there is a plan there, which shows his arrangements. The house appears to have been new, "lock, stock and barrel," no part of the old house being incorporated in it, though there is some old oak in the back stairs which seems to have come from it, and to date from the latter half of the 17th century. The old house of the Rodes was no doubt a timber structure, like that of the Moretons who owned the other half of the township (see Ormerod, Vol. III., p. 46).

Rode was bought by Roger Wilbraham (the Counsellor's grandfather) in 1669, from Randle Rode, in whose family it had been for many generations. [5]Randle Rode, in his embarrassments, had sold off a number of the farms piecemeal, so that his demesne was reduced from £300 a year to £110, when he sold the residue to Roger Wilbraham. This had ruined the estate for residential purposes, and it became the object of the Wilbrahams to get this land back again.[6] In this they have to a great extent succeeded, the High Smallwood being the only part which has not been recovered. The Counsellor bought some of it, and also some farms in Alsager, one being, I believe, the Manor Farm which at present belongs to me. He also acquired about 1752 a considerable estate at Bruen Stapleford, which was sold by his great-grandson about the year 1861. It was then worth about £4,000 a year; it lay between Chester and Tarporley.

The Counsellor's new house at Rode consisted of a main block three stories high, containing four reception rooms, entrance hall, two staircases and ten bedrooms. Behind this was a courtyard with cloisters, and beyond that again the offices, with one story of bedrooms over them.

There was also a stable courtyard, and a dovecot. In the time of his son and grandson, many alterations were made, the reception rooms were enlarged by

1. Will at Delamere.
2. Ormerod.
3. Ormerod.
4. Alumni Oxonienses.
5. Wilbraham M.S.S., Delamere.
6. The other owners in 1713 were Sir John Bellott, High Smallwood; Wilkinson, the Backes; Cradock, the Snellacres (near Bratt's Wood); Kent, the Moors; Sillito, the Brownshaw; Clowes, other land sold to R. Wilbraham before 1717.

Randle Wilbraham of Rode, 1694—1770.

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adding bows to them; and the open courtyard was built over, so that the main block and offices are now completely joined together. The only important part that remains as the Counsellor left it is the principal staircase, and this is a good example of early Georgian work, such as one finds depicted in Abraham Swan's architectural plates, published between 1750 and 1760, the ceiling being very handsome.

Many generations of boys, myself amongst the number, have enjoyed themselves sliding down the wide oak handrail, which is arranged with ramps and curves and no corner posts, and might have been designed expressly for that purpose.

A good portrait of the Counsellor hangs over the dining-room mantelpiece, but the name of the artist is not known. It shows him with a pleasant face, refined hands, lace ruffles, brown velvet suit, and a voluminous perriwig. The plan of Rode and Coke upon Littleton are introduced in the background.

Two stories of him have been handed down. One is that, out coursing one day, a hare was put up, and someone shouted: "Give her law," that is, *a fair start*, on which he remarked: "I never give law."

The other is that at a party a bold lady said to him across the table: "I would have married you if it had not been for your nose." Whereupon he tenderly stroked the despised feature, murmuring softly: "Thank you, good nose." He died[1] 3rd December 1770, and there is a monument to him in Astbury Church. His epitaph is given by Ormerod.

His son, the first RICHARD of Rode, was born in 1725, matriculated at St. John's College Oxford 1742, and was called to the Bar at Lincolns Inn, 1747. He married 31st May 1755, Mary, daughter of Robert Bootle, and heiress of her uncle Sir Thomas Bootle of Lathom House, and he took her name.

And here I must give a short account of Mary Bootle's ancestry, which is interesting. The Bootles had long been seated at Melling in Lancashire, midway between Ormskirk and Liverpool. In Baines' History of Lancashire, Vol. II., p. 413, the various descents are traced from the 15th century down to the death of Thomas Bootle of Melling, the great-grandfather of Mary, who died in 1681. His son Robert lived at Maghull, the village which adjoins Melling. His wife's name was Elizabeth, and she was one of his administrators; but I have not been able to find out any more about her. He died intestate and was buried at Melling, 7th July 1708.

This Robert was the father of Thomas and Robert Bootle, already referred to, the father and uncle of Mary. Captain Robert Bootle, her father, was born 10th January 1693, and married 19th December 1732,[2] at St. Paul's Cathedral, Ann Tooke, born 1706, died 6th May 1768, was buried at Clapham. Robert Bootle died 7th May, 1758, was buried at Melling, and his will is at Somerset House. He was a director of the the East India Company.

Anne Tooke's father Edmund was a member of a very ancient family, which goes back to the Battle Abbey Roll, and has had branches in Kent, Norfolk, Hertfordshire, Sussex and London. Edmund belonged to the London branch,

1. Ormerod, Vol. III., p. 30.
2. Harleian Society's publications for 1899, p. 101.

his father and grandfather being also named Edmund. He was a merchant, and afterwards clerk of the Salters' Company, and bore a very high character.[1] He died intestate, 7th November 1729, and was buried in the old churchyard at Clapham[2] in the tomb belonging to his wife's family. His wife was Mary Lethieullier, of Clapham. The Lethieulliers were a Huguenot family, one of whom, Jan by name, suffered martyrdom at Valenciennes in 1567 or 1568. The grandson of this martyr, also Jan, came to England at the age of 14 in 1605. He had a family of 10 children, one of the younger ones being William, born 2nd December 1646, the father of Mary. Two of the elder brothers John and Christopher were city merchants and became very wealthy. An account of this family will be found in Agnew's "Protestant Exiles from France," Vol. I., p. 178, to which I am much indebted.

In the 18th century the name became completely Anglicised, being spelt Leithieulier,[3] and Lethulier, and pronounced Leth-u-leer, with the stress on the last syllable as in "chandelier." The family held lands in several counties, but appears to be totally extinct in the male line. The Hulses of Breamore represent the senior branch, through the marriage of Sir Edward Hulse, 3rd Baronet, with Mary Lethieullier in 1769. A few further particulars of this family are given in Appendix H.

Richard Wilbraham Bootle was M.P. for Chester 1761-90, as nominee of Lord Grosvenor. In 1784 there was a very stiff and expensive contest in the constituency; conducted not on political lines, but with the object of defeating the Grosvenor interest. Hemingway mentions however incidentally that Bootle was a Tory.[4]

He succeeded in holding the seat, mainly through his personal popularity, but he did not stand again.

He was High Steward of Congleton from 1757 to his death in 1796. There are portraits, by Allen, of him and his wife at Rode. He is fat and good natured looking; she looks thoroughly capable, as she undoubtedly was. Her account books remain, to show with what care and skill she managed the family affairs. She made considerable alterations at Rode, and the sketches of Repton (whom she employed as landscape gardener) are still to be seen. Between them they made the present long sheet of water; previously there had been two pools, divided by a public road, which ran close past the house. It is said that there used to be a waterfall, painted on canvas, so contrived that a spectator from the house might suppose that there was a cascade falling from one pool into the other, and that, when the family were from home, this piece of scenery was housed in the stables.

Richard and Mary Wilbraham-Bootle had eleven children: five sons (of whom only two grew up) and six daughters.

1. See his obituary notice in a serial called "Political State of Great Britain," by A. Boyer, 1711-40, Vol. 38, p. 494.
2. This tomb in St. Paul's Churchyard, near the public footpath, and to the s.w. of the Church, gives a great deal of family history. It is surrounded by a handsome iron grille.
3. Mary Tooke's Will of 1751.
4. Hemingway's History of Chester, Vol. II., 401.

Randle Wilbraham of Rode, 1773—1861.
From a miniature.

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The elder surviving son, Edward, was born 7th March 1771, and took his mother's name and her Lancashire property. He sat for Westbury 1795-6 and for Newcastle-under-Lyme 1796-1812. This latter seat was a pocket-borough of the Marquis of Stafford, who was a Whig; but at this time it was being stoutly contested by the Tories through the efforts of Sir Thomas Fletcher of Betley Court.[1] One story about this election is that at the time the hat trade, for which Newcastle was then famous, was very slack, a large stock of hats remaining on hand, and the operatives being short of work. The Whig candidates were advised, as an electioneering move, to buy up all the stock of hats, so that the mills might resume work. This was accordingly done, the gain to the cause was considerable, and the financial loss not serious. In later years my great uncle used to joke about this, and say: "In my young days, I was a hatter."

Edward Bootle Wilbraham[2] was created Lord Skelmersdale in 1828,[3] and he lived till 1853. In 1796 he married Mary Elizabeth Taylor of Bifrons in Kent, and they had two sons and two daughters. The eldest son Richard, died in his father's lifetime. He was M.P. for South Lancashire, and was the father of Edward, 2nd Lord Skelmersdale (who was created Earl of Lathom in 1880), and four daughters. The younger son, Edward, was a colonel in the Scots Guards, and has left numerous descendants. Of the two daughters, one died unmarried, and the other married the 14th Earl of Derby, who was three times prime minister.

To return to the children of Richard and Mary,—all the six daughters were married, Anne Dorothea to Richard Pepper Arden afterwards first Lord Alvanley, Mary to William Tatton Egerton, Francisca Alicia to Anthony G. Eyre, Sybilla Georgiana to William Farington, Emma to Sir Charles Edmonstone, and Elizabeth to Rev. W. Barnes. The only scrap of family tradition respecting any of these good people that I am able to give, relates to Lord Alvanley who was Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. It is said that he was a graceful orator; and that on one occasion, to round off a period, he drew from his pocket and flourished, what he took to be his handkerchief. It proved however, to be a baby's undergarment, much to the delight of the legal audience that he was addressing.[4]

The youngest child of Richard and Mary was my grandfather Randle Wilbraham, who never took the name of Bootle. He was born 10th January 1773, and matriculated at Christ Church Oxford in 1790. He does not seem to have taken a degree; but he was a considerable traveller in his young days. Europe being distracted by war, he turned his attention to the East, and made a tour in Turkey and Persia. His diaries are to be seen at Rode.[5] It is said that, on his return he received the following caution from a woman of the world: "You have made a most interesting journey, Mr. Wilbraham; now take my advice and *don't talk about it.*"

1. As at Chester a dozen years earlier, political principles were a secondary consideration. The object of the contest was to defeat his lordship's interest.
2. In 1814 he had changed his name from Wilbraham-Bootle to Bootle-Wilbraham.
3. Apparently as a compliment to the memory of Canning, his intimate friend, lately deceased. (See "George Canning and his friends," Vol. II., p. 433, published 1909.)
4. For a memoir of him see Annual Register for 1804, p. 475.
5. He left England 12th December, 1793, and returned 16th April 1798.

In the following December he married and settled down at Rode. His wife was Letitia Rudd, a niece of the Lord Alvanley who married his aunt. Her portrait is at Rode, and a duplicate of it is at Peatswood. On the back of the latter picture is the following memorandum:

"The picture of Letitia Rudd, a copy from one taken of her now at Pepper Hall, by Sir William Beechey, in the year 1796.

She was the daughter of the Rev. Edward Rudd, rector of Houghton in the county of Durham by Letitia Arden, daughter of John Arden Esquire; the above named Letitia Rudd, was the happy wife of Randle Wilbraham Esquire of Rode Hall in the County of Chester. She was born September 17th 1777, and married the fifth of December 1798. She departed this life the 30th of March 1805 aged 27 years 6 months and 12 days, at her mother's house in Chester.

She left issue:—

Mary Letitia Wilbraham.
Randle
Edward Richard
Frances Maria and
Emma.

She lived beloved and died lamented by all who knew her, particularly by her adoring husband, and not less adoring mother and family connexions. For amiableness of disposition and sound judgment, none ever excelled her, and for her many perfections, *extreme beauty one*, though the least of them, she was universally admired."

With regard to the statements here contained, it may be noted:—

1. That my aunt Fanny Wilbraham, from whom the picture came to me, always said that it was a replica made by Sir William Beechey himself, and not a copy by a different artist.

2. Pepper Hall is between Northallerton and Richmond. In 1812 it belonged to John Arden the eldest brother of Letitia's mother.[1]

3. Mr. Rudd's living was Haughton-le-Skerne near Darlington, not Houghton-le-Spring.

With regard to her children, EDWARD died in 1817 at Rugby School.

FRANCES MARIA was baptised at Astbury 3rd August 1803, and died at Hinckley[2] 18th November 1812. (Astbury register).

MARY LETITIA was born in 1799. She married Joseph H. Fryer of Whitley House, Northumberland. She was for many years a widow, and ended her days with her half-sisters at Chester. She died in August 1874.

1. Cary's Itinerary.
2. I do not know what can have taken her to Hinckley, unless she was visiting the Cannings, who had a house there at this time, and had also a delicate girl. "George Canning and his friends," Vol. I., 398.

Sibylla, 1780—1869, 2nd wife of Randle Wilbraham.
From a miniature.

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RANDLE, born 1st March 1801, was educated at Westminster and at Christ Church Oxford. He married 12th November 1833, Sibella, daughter of William Egerton of Gresford, and lived at Rode Heath until his father's death. He was squire of Rode for 26 years, and was well-known in Cheshire and much respected and beloved. He was especially kind to young men; he helped my father when he first came to Smallwood; he was extremely good to all his nephews (and he and his wife had a good many between them) and young cousins, asking them to Rode, and giving them shooting, forgiving their boyish mischief, and giving them excellent advice; and he had Sunday classes and Shakespeare readings for the village boys, in whom he always took great interest.

Rode is indebted to him for the beautiful new church which has taken the place of a mean brick chapel. And his generosity was great, often greater than his means. For, having so many brothers and sisters to provide for and having been hard-hit by the cattle plague which devastated the Cheshire herds in 1867, he never was rich or in a position to do all the good that he wished to do. His wife was also a most kind and considerate person and a good friend to many, my father and mother and my sister and myself amongst the number. She was also a woman of great taste and no mean artist in water colours. She died in 1871; and they had no children. Randle died 10th March 1887.

EMMA the youngest child was born in 1804, and married her first cousin Sir Archibald Edmonstone of Duntreath in 1832. I have the pleasantest recollections of them both. My father and sister and I stayed with them in Scotland in 1868 and had a capital time. One day, practising gymnastics in my bedroom, I snapped the poker in two; and great was Sir Archibald's amusement and delight when I confessed the deed, and many were his subsequent enquiries after the tongs and shovel. He died of smallpox, March 1871.

Aunt Emma also had much of her mother's charm and was a sympathetic soul. In her later years she grew very deaf and conversation became difficult. One day I was trying to explain that a mutual friend was ill and not likely to recover. She did'nt take it in at all, but wished to say something kind, so her reply was: "Very nice, my dear, very nice indeed." After that we took to writing what we had to say on a slate. Aunt Emma died 25th May 1891. She left me a legacy, which was spent on the stable clock, the striking of which is a pleasant reminder of her. An oil painting of her in her young days is also at Peatswood. As to it she used to say in her playful way: "It never was the least like me, my dear. But never mind: when I'm dead and gone, people will say how pretty I must have been."

My grandfather married secondly, at Backford near Chester, 9th February 1808, Sibylla Egerton, one of a family of thirteen. Her father was Philip Egerton of Egerton and Oulton, and her mother Mary daughter of Sir F. H. Eyles-Styles. Mrs. Egerton lived till 1821, and there is a miniature of her at Rode.

Of my grandmother's nine brothers, the two elder became the 8th and 9th Baronets of Oulton; a third, Willam, after serving for some years in India, settled at Gresford near Wrexham; a fourth was General Sir Charles Egerton,

G.C.M.G.; a fifth married the heiress of Arley and took the name of Warburton; and the youngest was our heraldic poet, "Uncle Dickie."

Of the three sisters, one married Sir John Delves Broughton, a second T. Tarleton of Bolesworth, and the third Charles Leycester.

My grandfather had by his second wife three sons and five daughters.

CHARLES PHILIP born 10th March 1810, educated abroad at Hofwyl in Switzerland, and held a commission in the Coldstream Guards. In 1841 he gave up the army and went to Peterhouse Cambridge, where he graduated. Taking Holy orders he became vicar of Audley, and held the living for 30 years, doing much excellent work there. In 1874 he became vicar of Penkridge, and in 1877 he married Caroline Howard the daughter of a former Dean of Lichfield. He was a great traveller and had a fund of amusing reminiscences to draw upon, consequently he was much in request as a lecturer. He was a linguist, and also musical, the violoncello being his instrument; he was also the author of several books of travel and various devotional works. He died 17th December 1879.

RICHARD, born 12th April 1811, was also educated at Hofwyl, and joined the Rifle Brigade 25th March 1828.[1] He served six years in Canada, and afterwards went on a special mission to Teheran, where he was in the summer of 1837. He made a tour in the Caucasus, and was in that province in October 1837 when the Emperor Nicholas visited it. He returned to Teheran in the spring of 1838, and a year later he was at Rode publishing his diary.[2] The diary does not include the information which he gave me long afterwards, that he left Persia somewhat abruptly in consequence of friction between the Shah and the English Government. Our policy had been to assist the Persians and amongst other things to teach them the use of the rifle, which had been my uncle's duty. But Russian influences prevailed, and the Shah began the siege of Herat, which lasted for ten months. Of course British support was withdrawn, and Mr. McNeill left the Persian camp at Herat in June 1838. About the same time my uncle must have left Teheran, having previously damaged the locks of the rifles which he had taken to Persia, so as to render them useless.

At this time he exchanged from the Rifle Brigade into the 7th Royal Fusiliers. Shortly after this he served in the Syrian campaign against Mohammed Ali, and was Governor of Tyre. He then did garrison duty at Gibraltar, in the West Indies, Ireland, and elsewhere, but not in India, until 1854, when he went out with his regiment to the Crimea as major. Being an excellent linguist (knowing Russian and Persian, as well as French, German, Italian, and Spanish), he soon got a staff appointment and served as A.A.G. to Sir George de Lacy Evans' division; his colleague the A.Q.M.G. being Col. the Hon. Percy Herbert, father of the present Lord Powis.

After the Crimean war he had appointments at Manchester and Woolwich; and subsequently became the first Commandant of Netley Hospital, a post which he held till he retired in May 1870. He was a full General, a K.C.B., a chevalier of the Legion of Honour, and had the Syrian, Crimean, and Turkish medals.

1. Randle Wilbraham's Diary at Rode.
2. "Travels in the Caucasus," by Capt. R. Wilbraham.

He succeeded his brother Randle as squire of Rode in 1887, and died there 30th April 1900, aged 89. With him the male line of the Rode family ended. He was always very kind to me, and in my school days I paid many visits to him at Netley. We also travelled together twice, in North America in 1876 and in Switzerland and Italy in 1878. I have two early sketches of him: one after a picture by Richmond dated 1837, the other in Persian dress smoking a hookah—which is curious, as in later years he could not bear tobacco.

I went to wish him good-bye when about to leave England for South Africa in March 1900, and he said that I should never see him again, which proved only too true.

He married 24th December 1846 his first cousin, Eliza Frances Egerton of Gresford, who died 28th May 1849. They had an only child Katherine Frances, the present Châtelaine of Rode. She married 4th April 1872 George Barrington, son of Sir George Baker, 3rd Bart., and they have taken the name of Wilbraham. Their family consists of three daughters, and a son Philip Wilbraham born 1875. The latter married 8th August 1901 Joyce Christabel daughter of Sir John Kennaway, and they have three daughters, and a son Randle born 1906.

The youngest son, Francis Henry Randle, was born 6th January 1819, educated at Cambridge, and afterwards called to the Bar. Towards the end of the Crimean War he paid a visit to his brother Richard, who was serving before Sevastopol. This must have given him a taste for soldiering, for he became a very active Volunteer, and acted as Captain of a Company from the outset of the movement. In 1858 he married Elizabeth Mary daughter of John Barnard of Ham Common. Their first home was at Old House Green near Mowcop Station, and my sister and I went to see them there. There was a piece of water in the garden, and the remains of a bridge which once had spanned it. In answer to our childish enquiries, we were gravely informed by Uncle Frank that this bridge had given way while a stout lady was crossing it, and that thirteen Newfoundland dogs had been required to pull her out.

My uncle and aunt afterwards built themselves a house at Cresswellshawe near Alsager, on an outlying portion of the Rode Estate. In addition to their two daughters who survived, they had a gentle little blue eyed boy Randle Herbert, who died August 1866 aged five years.

My uncle died early in 1900, shortly before his elder brother Richard.

As to my grandfather and grandmother's five daughters:

The eldest Sibylla Elizabeth, born in 1809, was short sighted, and always wore spectacles. My mother's tribute to her virtues will be inserted later; so I will only add here that she had a workbox full of treasures, which was a great joy, because small fingers were allowed to rummage it to any extent without rebuke. She died September 1863.

The second, Henrietta, born 29th November 1812, is also described by my mother, so it is enough to say of her that in later life she and her brother Richard were very congenial companions, and liked travelling together. She was one of our party in Switzerland and Italy in 1878, and keenly enjoyed everything.

She modelled cleverly in clay and wax; and I have a small bust of my grandfather that was done by her.

She died at Chester, and was buried in the cemetery there 4th June 1891. Of the three younger sisters, Fanny, Emily, and Charlotte (my mother), it is possible for me to give a fuller account; of my mother from her papers only; and of Fanny and Emily partly from their writings, and partly from intimate personal knowledge, which began more than half-a-century ago, and has only lately been ended by their deaths.

Fanny, or to give her her baptismal name Frances Maria, was born 30th June[1] 1815, less than a fortnight after Waterloo. In consequence she had a narrow escape of being christened "Victoria." But the idea was given up, and she received instead the names of her little nine year old half sister who had died less than three years before. A trap was thus set for genealogists which it is to be hoped that they will avoid falling into.

[1]Emily was born 31st July 1816, and Charlotte 24th April 1821. On 15th July 1822 those of the family who were not at School started on a foreign tour, which included Rome and Florence, and lasted till September 1825. They left the Tower of London by Steamer, and travelled in two carriages. On one occasion a carriage was upset, and the children had a narrow escape. This Italian tour had its effect upon the girls. Fanny, at any rate, learned the language pretty thoroughly, and never forgot it. As to the others, I cannot speak so positively; but they all used Italian words, speaking of their father and mother habitually as padre and madre. Italy probably had its influence also on their music and drawing. When they grew up, they were highly educated according to the standard of the day. Fanny made a second tour on the Continent in 1841, with Colonel William Tomkinson and Susan his wife, the latter being her first cousin, daughter of Frances Tarleton her mother's sister. This tour took in Paris, Italy, and Switzerland; and ended with a most interesting visit to the field of Waterloo, where Colonel Tomkinson had fought 26 years before, serving as a Captain in the 16th Light Dragoons.

There is a fragmentary account of a journey which Fanny and Charlotte made in Warwickshire, visiting Leamington, Stratford, Charlecote, Stoneleigh Abbey, and other places. They inspected many ancient churches (partly under the guidance of Mr. Bloxam himself, a leading authority on Gothic Architecture) and enjoyed themselves vastly. This trip lasted three weeks; it is not dated, but seems to have taken place in June and July 1844.

There are also some letters of Charlotte to her friend Frances Levett, which were written between 1841 and 1844. They refer to the Birmingham Musical Festival,[2] and the Knutsford Balls; and give an account of a visit to her sister Emma in London, with its Drawing Lessons, Hullah Singing Class, &c. She found the Polytechnic very fascinating. "How pretty it is to see the minikin Steam Engines working with all their little mights. After luncheon we set forth again and saw the grand Centrifugal Railway. I cannot fancy anyone venturing in the car, it is quite enough to see the man whiz round head downwards.

1. These dates are taken from family papers, and are correct. Those given in Ormerod are wrong.
2. 19th Sept. 1843.

Charlotte Wilbraham, afterwards wife of Francis Cradock Twemlow.

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It is marvellous how he and the can of water stick in without the possibility of falling." So that "Looping the Loop" was not unknown in the early forties.

She was much impressed with Westminster Abbey; and amused by a German who wanted to know whether the Coronation stone from Scone was the same that Jacob used for a pillow at Bethel. She also described St. Albans and Greenwich, and seems to have found the high church services in London very attractive. She ends one letter by saying: "I generally think of a hundred forgotten things after my letter is sealed, but if I were to write everything that happens here I should never end." She had a lively imagination and a great eye for a likeness.

The travelling arrangements of those days are interesting. Charlotte and Emily arrived in London in their sister Emma's carriage mounted on a railway truck and with a servant in attendance. On arrival at Euston, horses were brought, and they drove away to the Edmonstones' house in Regent's Park. When they left London, 9th December, they went by coach to Cambridge, starting very early and arriving after dark. They spent several days seeing Cambridge, where their brothers Charles and Frank were then undergraduates. And from there they went back to Rode, going by coach to Weedon and thence by train to Birmingham, Crewe and Sandbach. The journey took 14 hours. Charlotte's comment on her travels which took place between 24th October and 15th December 1842 is as follows: "All things come to an end, and so has this expedition so long looked forward to and so satisfactorily accomplished."

On 2nd November 1844, Fanny went to keep house for her brother Charles at Audley, and helped him with his work. They found the parish much neglected; there was not even a Sunday school, still less a day school. Fanny records the difficulties that they had to encounter, and how they started a national school with thirty boys and thirty girls. She found the girls very ignorant, and very rude; and she describes her anxiety during the visits of the various inspectors. Charlotte went to see her there, and writes of the school; "The din is considerable. Indeed, the infants learning the Belief fairly drove me away, they made such a clatter." She continues: "This is Sir Thomas Boughey's rent day, and all his tenants are dining at the Inn here. The Patriarch of the place, a delightful old man, introduced a farmer, Mr. H., to Charles this afternoon, who wishes to send three children to school. So they came across and heard the first class of boys taught, and then Mr. H. made his way to Fan, who was very busy teaching a child, so he fastened upon me, bent over my chair and put his face into my bonnet in such an affectionate way I was quite alarmed, till he said they had not *dined* yet, and he proved to be quite rational and civil, poor dear man." Then comes a description of a dinner that was given at the Vicarage, and went off well. "When they were gone, we all went off to the kitchen to compliment Merrick on the dinner, and Charles said he should be asking the Queen soon. At which the poor old lady looked quite scared, and exclaimed, 'Ay dear, Sir, you put me all of a werret!'"

In spite of all drawbacks, the school seems to have flourished; and in October 1845, when Bishop Lonsdale visited Audley, five hundred children assembled to meet him and gave cheers for him and the Vicar and Miss Fanny.

[1]In 1907, there was school accommodation, built or building, in Audley parish, for 3,348 children.

At Audley Fanny saw much of the sad side of life, especially the suffering caused by colliery accidents. She at this time wrote a poem called: "Perils of the Mine," giving an account of the providential rescue of a lad named John Pointon from a flooded pit, in which he had been imprisoned from mid-day on Tuesday until the following Friday morning. I do not know how long Fanny remained at Audley, as the record breaks off in 1847 leaving her still there. In 1849 she was, I believe, with her brother Richard then quartered at Winchester, keeping him company after the loss of his wife. It was in this way that she first became acquainted with Dr. and Mrs. Moberly, Mr. and Mrs. Keble, Bishop and Mrs. Selwyn and Miss Yonge, all of whom became her warm friends.

In May 1845 Charlotte and Charles crossed over to Ireland to pay a visit at Charleville, Lord Rathdowne's beautiful place near Bray, where they remained for ten days.

Lady Rathdowne had died in 1843; but she left nine daughters—the ladies Monck—the last of whom died in 1899.

Lord Rathdowne died in 1848, when the earldom became extinct. It was not my mother's first visit to Ireland, as she refers to a former extended tour in that country.

Her diary gives a detailed account of all they did and saw, and what they talked about, and is full of funny bits. Lord Rathdowne remarked that "she went about with her eyes wide open." Amongst the things that they saw was the Queen's birthday review in Phœnix Park. The proceedings lasted five hours, but were so full of interest that the time flew by very quickly. The diary describes the evolutions of the troops in considerable detail, and then proceeds, "I am sure that many groups that we saw would have made *admirable* pictures and *caricatures* without end. Among the latter, old Lady S. the wife of the Dublin Recorder would have figured pre-eminently. She was very fat and old, with a tiny bonnet on the tip of her head and a ruby coloured satin pelisse trimmed with velvet. When the review began she actually climbed up to the very steep coach-box and sat beside her husband. Think of her becoming hungry enough to buy a paper of cakes from a woman who was going about with a basket!!"

Charlotte also found herself called upon to act as portrait painter.

"Soon after 12 poor Hicks arrived according to special appointment, and was placed before the library window. He looked very ill and inanimate poor creature. Lady Fanny and Mr. Wynne helped me with their advice, and to my great relief it was a pretty good likeness, for I had been dreading the undertaking very much."

"Lady Fanny asked me all about our different avocations, and we had great fun. They thought Em the most illused, for having all the dull letters to write." "Lady Fanny gave an absurd account of her poor uncle, who gave

1. From Statistics of the County Education Committee at Stafford.

way to nervousness so much that he became quite childish, and sometimes put a spoonful of egg into his ear instead of his mouth." Ly Louisa calls extempore preaching "meandering about in nonsense," and Lady Harriet, in describing a very slow clergyman who tried her patience extremely, said she was obliged to dance up and down in Church to keep herself quiet."

On returning to Rode she concluded "I was very sleepy and so continued for several days. Our little expedition was most enjoyable, and I do hope may be repeated ere long with the addition of Fan to make it quite complete."

Not long after this, 5th August 1845, Charlotte and Fanny went to stay with Lady Bolland at Siddington near Cirencester, and thoroughly explored that neighbourhood, visiting Gloucester, Fairford, and many other places, and gratifying their architectural and archæological tastes. They also derived much amusement from what went on around them, suffering at times considerable pain from suppressed merriment.

"The tea at the rectory beggars description, and there is no fear of its being forgotten. Two Miss H's, their medical brother, Mr. B, an old college friend of Mr. H, with top boots and a bay wig in the shape of an early English arch (as Lizzie technically termed it). The poor old rector's mistake about Sir Windsor Sandys, whom he had buried two years ago! Judith's laugh! Comparison of us to the Miss C's! Dr. H's buttered toast! I am sure Dickens and Cruikshank could not have imagined a better group whereon to exercise their talents, than we presented. As soon as we were fairly driven off, the suppressed laughter of two hours burst forth. And we nearly killed each other with repeating the various speeches we had treasured up, and comparing notes. Mr. Bolland rocked himself to and fro in a perfect convulsion."

I do not know when my father and mother first met. The families seem to have had an acquaintance of long standing. My grandfather's diary shows that two Twemlows were guests at Rode in 1810, and probably my other grandfather was one of them. Fanny was a visitor at Betley Court, from Audley, in 1845. And my father dined at Rode in July and twice in October in that year. Before Christmas he figures in the diary as "Frank Twemlow," and before the end of 1846 the engagement must have been regarded as a settled thing. The parsonage house was not, however, begun before 1846, the foundation stone being laid by Sibella Wilbraham, and bearing the date and her initials.

The bishop's license to my father is dated 29th September 1846. About this time my mother wrote to a friend "I have been one Sunday to Smallwood Church, when my cousins were away, and Sibella asked me to help the singing. Mr. Twemlow does the duty extremely well. Indeed they are very fortunate in having such a good clergyman." It is by no means unlikely that Sibella had a little match making in her mind, when she sent Charlotte the above mentioned invitation. She seems to have taken an interest in my father from the first. He used to say she "tried to make a swell of him, but could not do it," which meant, amongst other things, that she urged him to wear Wellington boots and trouser straps, according to the uncomfortable fashion of that day; a costume very little suited to his active habits, and the wet Cheshire lanes. I believe that my father was a guest at Rode Heath for some considerable time in his bachelor days.

On 1st January 1847 my mother notes in a fragmentary memorandum book that she and Sibyl walked to Rode Heath, and Mr. Twemlow was there, and they remained sometime, and that Randle was dining at Smallwood. The intimacy continued to increase, but there is nothing to mark the day of the actual betrothal. If not in 1846, it must have taken place early in 1847; for the wedding (after the delay on financial grounds alluded to in General Egerton's verses) was on 11th January 1848.

A baby girl which did not live was born 21st October of that year; and my sister Anastasia was born 26th July 1851.

As to their married life at Smallwood, and the family circle at Rode, my mother shall speak for herself. All I have done is to assist the reader by substituting the real names for the fictitious ones, as far as possible. The visitors retain their incog. The story is given in full:

"To Sibylla Elizabeth Wilbraham, the "Family Sketch" is inscribed by C.T. 1849.

"*Often must one home contain*
Crossing will, and varied thought,
Yet if linked by one bright chain,
All to harmony are brought,
Like varied notes, in skilful concord wrought."—S.D.

It has often occurred to me that a very interesting book might be written, if only the proceedings of a large family party during *one single day*, were faithfully and simply recorded.

How great a diversity of character, how much kindly feeling, and what amusing incidents, might often times be presented to the reader! It may truly be said, that this is no *new* idea, nevertheless it is one which captivates my fancy so completely, that I must try to act upon it.

Very imperfectly will my poor pen fulfil the task which I have in view, but *she*, to whom I dedicate the sketch, will be indulgent to its faults, and may possibly recognise in it some of the friends with whom we both hold constant and affectionate intercourse.

Nay more, I must beg of her to forgive any remarks that may seem personal in the course of this little history, and to transport herself with us to a certain diminutive drawing room, with which she is well acquainted.

Now I have not chosen a day on which any wonderful event happened to the family. I am about to describe no wedding day, no first return home of a long absent brother, no Friendly Society's Anniversary, no school feast; but a plain honest useful day, which leaves neither excitement nor very distinct trace behind it.

First then, we will look in for a minute or two upon Charlotte Twemlow in her parsonage. She had just finished breakfast on the morning of the day I speak of, and the church bell having rung for the second time, her husband was gone as usual to open the National School, followed by a train of little panting children, who had run for their lives on hearing the summons.

After reading quietly for a short time, Charlotte arranged her domestic concerns with the old housekeeper. Their discussion was somewhat lengthy, and wandered off to parish matters, cough mixture, and broth, till Mr. Twemlow opened the door, and asked for his clogs to be brought. These clogs, you must know, were made by the shoemaker in the village, with thick wooden soles, and are very suitable for the wet lanes and boggy fields which abound in the district.

Mrs. Burne soon returned with them ; and said on leaving the room, "You will have the mutton roasted for dinner, ma'am." "Oh, no!" Charlotte replied, "boiled by all means, now that we are allowed to steal a few carrots from the *dear* horse," and she looked mischievously at Mr. Twemlow, "and remember the macaroni." Mrs. Burne seemed to be puzzled, for visions of a rice pudding were floating through her brain. However, she acquiesced, and as she left the room, Mr. Twemlow exclaimed, laughing, "Dear old woman, she is always blundering." "Yes, she is," Charlotte said, "but this morning it was quite my fault, for I took a flight into futurity, and ordered luncheon for Tom and Anastasia a week beforehand, which was not fair upon her poor memory."

A calm now followed, during which Mr. Twemlow read the tenth volume of Alison's History, and Charlotte busied herself with sundry bills, and in making up a workbag for her mother-in-law.

Presently the postbag was brought in—Charlotte unlocked it and handed a newspaper to her husband. "How tiresome," she cried," here are three letters for Mr. Dawson, and none for me!"

"By the bye, there is one from home," she added, taking up a three cornered note which sat alone upon a salver.

Are you curious to know what it contained? Wait one moment, for Mr. Twemlow is sure to ask as soon as he has glanced at his newspaper.

While he does so, pray fly with me only three miles to Rode Hall. We must fancy it a little after seven o'clock the same morning. Charlotte's eldest sister, Sibyl (always an early riser) was looking out of her window at the bright sunshine and fresh dewy grass. "How charming," she said to herself, as she began her toilet with alacrity, "I really shall get to that dear child to-day, after being so often disappointed. I will walk over to Smallwood for luncheon, and then I shall not interfere with any drive or walk she may have to take."

In the joy of her heart Sibyl began to hum a psalm tune, one of Charlotte's favourites, which she often asked her to sing; and about an hour afterwards sallied forth with a basket on her arm, and a pair of gauntlets on her hands, to a charming little spot, quite secluded and peaceful, called from time immemorial, "The young ladies' garden."

Here, after industriously pulling up every minute weed, and tying up several straggling climbers, Sibyl placed some young plants of forget-me-not in her basket, and prepared to return home.

Her next care was to enquire after her younger sister Harriet, who is a delicate creature, and her especial charge. To her, as usual, she read the psalms and lessons for the day, and then hastened downstairs to make breakfast.

When the butler brought in the kettle, Sibyl gave him a three-cornered note directed to "Mrs. F. C. Twemlow, Smallwood Parsonage."

She was pleased to watch her father walk into the room with a stronger step than usual, and lift the coffee-pot with a firmer hand than she had seen since his last attack of rheumatism. Mrs. Wilbraham, too, was quite brisk, and having been to the terrace to look after her bantams, was very glad of a hot cup of tea, which she highly commended.

The post brought no particular news, but comfortable accounts of various relations and friends. There was a letter from a married sister in the north (Mary Fryer), enclosing a pair of fine knitted muffetees for Harriet, whose hands are always cold. Another from a married sister in Scotland (Emma Edmonstone) whose little household distresses and perplexities are told so funnily that one must needs laugh first and sympathise afterwards. Another from a married brother quartered in Ireland, but about to join his wife in England (Richard), full of warm hearted delight at the prospect of being so soon home again.

These pleasant letters engaged Sibyl's attention for a long time. At last, on looking at her watch, she jumped and exclaimed, "Dear me! Mrs. Broughton[1] will be here directly. I must fly and prepare for her."

This personage is the stewardess of the Rode Friendly Society, who brings her book to be examined every month by Sibyl. Punctual to the appointed hour Mrs. Broughton came panting down the passage to the boudoir, quite out of breath with the exertion of mounting two pairs of stairs.

"I hope there is not much to be done this morning," said Sibyl, after the first greetings were over, "for I am going to Smallwood for luncheon, and must start at a quarter past twelve."

"Oh no ma'am, there are no new members, and not much sick pay."

"How is Mrs. Twemlow?" "Very well, thank you," replied Sibyl; and, dreading the good woman's loquacity, took up her pen.

Then they set to work, but alas! at the end the sums did not tally. Sibyl is very patient, she added up the columns a second time, still the same result. "We must go over the names again," she said.

"Anne Dutton, 7½d.," croaked Mrs. Broughton, then a fit of coughing, then her spectacles fell off. Sibyl could not help laughing.

Mary Jenks, 8d. "Do you know ma'am," cried the stewardess eagerly, "that Mary's brother's wife had twins yesterday? Such little mites they say, and never a bit of flannel to wrap them in, but what the neighbours have lent her. She was in the school many years, and in your class, when you first began to teach, so I thought I would name it to you." "Oh, certainly," said Sibyl pitifully, "send them two of my sets of baby clothes." Mrs. Broughton would have enquired whether the frocks should be of the pink check, or spotted lilac print but Sibyl asked for the next name, and so the subject dropped.

Many however, were the good woman's interruptions, and fruitless their endeavours to rectify their money matters.

1. She was the School-mistress at Lawton.

Poor Sibyl grew heavy and bewildered; but unselfish as ever, she thought more of Mrs. Broughton's dinner being delayed, than her own walk. So she dismissed the stewardess and resumed her task alone.

At length, Sibyl drew a long breath, and almost groaned. "Tiresome, dear good woman, what trouble you have given me!" The fact was, that Mrs. Broughton had overlooked a payment noted down in pencil, and this sum made up the deficiency.

Sibyl raised her flushed cheek, and joyfully cleared away pens, ink, and desk. "My troubles are all over," she said, "now for dear Smallwood!"

Thither, if you please, we must now return.

In answer to Mr. Twemlow's enquiry "What news from Rode?" Charlotte read Sibyl's note aloud:

"My dearest child

You know how long I have wished to walk over and see you, but since Emily went away, I have not liked to leave Harriet all alone. However to-day there is nothing particular to be done, and she will not hear of my staying at home on her account. She seems bonnie this morning, and so are our Parents. I shall present myself for luncheon.

Love to Frank. How snug we shall be together!

Adieu, Yrs. lovingly,

Sibyl."

"That will be charming," said Mr. Twemlow, "and Charlie, we will take her into the School. Naughty little Anne Ball was late again for prayers this morning. So Mr. Dawson shall hang a slate round her neck, with 'Idle Child' upon it, and put her upon the bench. Then you must both go and ask why she is disgraced, and the glaring of Sibyl's spectacles will have a fine effect. I suppose you will not drive to Rode to-day, so I will make old Thomas prepare the beds for the annuals, while I stamp and roll."

The latter part of Mr. Twemlow's speech may sound rather alarming to our readers, but his light brown hair did not wreathe itself into snakes round his head, nor his mild eyes flash fire, as he made this announcement. You must understand then that the newly sodded grass plot requires to be flattened, and the freshly gravelled walks to be rolled, with greater strength of arm than the old gardener possesses. So his master always undertakes these labours himself. Was Charlotte aware that Mr. Twemlow's intended walk had been postponed in order that she might not pass a solitary morning? Yes, indeed she felt and valued his kindness, but she made no speech about it, and none was expected. Mr. Twemlow constantly consults Charlotte's pleasure in this way, it is quite an understood thing between them; but I think I may safely say that *he* never thereby neglects a duty, nor do her grateful feelings towards him become less lively from constant exercise.

Charlotte took up her work, and sat cheerfully watching the gardening operations. Mr. Twemlow had thrown off his hat and coat, and was dragging the heavy stone roller along vigorously; from time to time giving directions to the old gardener, which he ran to fulfil as fast as his poor bowed legs would carry him.

Time wore on. Charlotte, after going to the kitchen to order some fried plum pudding to be added to the luncheon in honour of Sibyl, mended a pen, took some manuscript music books off the pianoforte, and placed them on an old fashioned[1] Dutch tile table beside her. "There," she said, "that dull work will be easily accomplished while Sibyl is talking to me. Let me see, there are two tenors, one bass, one treble, and two that require the four parts to be written. What a little black wretch Abel's book has become, and so smoky! I'm sure I will not touch it with my bare hands before luncheon! Frank, do I see Sibyl's bonnet coming down the lane a long way off? Oh, no!" Charlotte added an instant after; "It is actually that forlorn old black pony's head cropping the hedge. I will not begin to watch for her, for everything seems to turn into a bonnet merely to tantalize me, and she must be here soon."

Very shortly after an important sounding bell proclaimed one o'clock, not only to the inhabitants of the parsonage, but also to the surrounding country. It is more like the squire's bell than the small incumbent's, and indeed once filled the former dignified post, till it was pronounced to be cracked, and thrown aside. Years after, it was pulled out of its hiding place, and sent off with a cargo of old furniture to Mr. Twemlow when he first set up house. What curious relics of antiquity are produced on such occasions when old nurses and housekeepers are allowed to ransack the family cupboards by their mistresses. "The dear young gentlemen have everything to buy, and therefore any odd thing comes in from carpets and curtains downwards,"—they say.

Mrs. Burne is very proud of her bell, and the neighbours often tell her how dull the place seems when her master and mistress are away, and it never rings.

Charlotte little thought that Sibyl was beyond the reach of its tones. So it was, however, and even in the best regulated families, such contretemps will occur. Fine opportunities they are for bringing our strong wills into subjection, and teaching us to give up our pet schemes with a good grace, when anything makes it right to do so.

Sibyl went down stairs equipped for her journey after packing the forget-me-nots into the smallest possible basket and a kettle holder with some brown lamb's wool into her pocket. In the Library to her great surprise she found Harriet with her cloak and bonnet on, collecting a variety of things together, among the rest her knitting, some stamped envelopes, and a volume of Botta's Italian History, "My dear child," exclaimed Sibyl, as soon as amazement would allow her to speak. "what *are* you doing, and where *are* you going?" Harriet, who felt almost as guilty as a nestling would if caught trying to fly without its mamma's leave, replied very meekly: "Why, Sibyl dear, poor Fanny has sent over a most beseeching note from Audley, asking me to go to her if I possibly can. Mamma is very kind about it, and says I may stay a day or two if they would like to have me, so I have ordered the Whitechapel,[2] and am just going to gather a nosegay to take with me."

1. This table is now at Peatswood, but I do not know its history. The tiles are not Dutch, but Liverpool Delft, printed by Sadler and Green about 1760.
2. A light spring cart.

She put the note into Sibyl's hand, whose first impulse perhaps might border on vexation, for she does not like sudden schemes, and generally condemns them as *fussy*. However, she said nothing, and the feeling quite passed away while she read the appeal.

Before inflicting a second family note on my readers, I must introduce the writer to their notice in a few words. Fanny is another of the Rode sisterhood, and younger than Harriet. There is no one, I will venture to say, more loved and prized than she is by her own family; and no one who has drawn to herself more warm and faithful friends beyond its circle. When her brother Charles was appointed vicar of a large and populous parish a few miles distant from Rode, Fanny consented to emigrate thither with him, and great, of course, was the change to her, especially during the first long winter. I can only compare her to a cypress tree, taken from a sheltered place among sister evergreens, and planted by itself on a high ground. True, there was an oak hard by to give it good protection, but it could not keep off every searching blast, as the thick grove did.

Of a most sociable nature, Fanny keenly felt at first the loneliness of her position, compared with the one she had hitherto occupied. There were also weary moments of discouragement, increased often by bodily fatigue. Her feelings are both quick and deep, and her imagination a very lively one. She now confesses, almost with a smile, how much depressed she used to be by the constant funerals; the nervous awe with which she looked out upon the crowded churchyard by moonlight, and the positive terror which came over her when the sounds of drunken revelry reached her sometimes at midnight from the village alehouses. Neither weather nor distance interfere with her visits to the sick people. She struggles with storm and wind from one cottage to another, a witness often of sufferings which make her shudder; I mean the dreadful sufferings which colliery accidents are constantly producing. I shall never end if I speak of her wonderful exertions amongst the school children, and her kindness to all around, both rich and poor. Suffice it to say, that every lovable quality produced by unselfishness, singleness of heart, generosity, cleverness, and the highest principle, united, are to be found in Fanny.

I must also add that things are very much improved since Mr. Wilbraham went to Audley, now more than four years ago. He has a curate, and excellent schools, so that Fanny is able to allow herself more frequent holidays than formerly. She shall give her own cogent reasons for desiring Harriet's presence on this particular day.

"My dearest Harriet,

I am half ashamed of "freighting an urchin" with my lamentations; but even if you cannot help us, it is a comfort to tell you of our little troubles. Poor Charles has had a severe toothache all night, and looks quite ill and worn this morning; and I have contrived to catch a stupid cold, so we are neither of us brilliant, though we have had a hearty laugh over our dismal plight.

This is not all, for poor old Merrick has tumbled down and sprained her wrist, so that she cannot take an active part in the cookery. She fidgets herself sadly about the dinner, as she wished everything to be superfine for Mr. and Mrs.

Stone Price, but I comfort her, and tell her that I have no misgivings. Now, if you are pretty well, and charitably disposed, and my dear mother can spare you, and there happens to be a horse and vehicle disengaged to bring you over, I cannot say how enchanted we shall be to see you. Mr. West (Lord Clifford's tutor, whom Charles knew at Gibraltar you may remember) dines with us to-day. Moreover the painted glass man may walk in with the window, and you may perhaps glean some hints from him, for he is an intelligent, good-natured person, and would not, I think, be jealous of a lady rival in his art. I will not delay the messenger by scribbling more, so with best love to all, I remain,

Yr very affectionate,

Fanny."

Harriet's departure was not long delayed; for immediately after hearing of the domestic calamity, Mrs. Wilbraham rang her bell twice for the housekeeper, and they had a short colloquy, which resulted in two neatly packed baskets finding their way into the Whitechapel, as tokens of maternal sympathy and thoughtfulness.

In her haste Harriet did *not* forget to have a very pretty gown packed up in honour of Charles and Fanny's guests; and she also took with her, as she always does, a plentiful stock of pleasant conversation. She masters all the intricacies of German and Italian politics at this moment with wonderful ease, knows the latest movements of the Colonial Bishops, and can give you the pith of a story better than anyone I know. But when she is not thrown with literary people, she can condescend to commonplace topics, and contrive to make the most of them. So that she is a gain to any society, and Fanny did wisely in securing her assistance.

It was high time for Sibyl to start, but she seemed to hesitate. "Indeed, Harriet," she said, "I do not like to leave my mother alone in case anyone should call. No, no; I had better put it off," and she began to untie her bonnet strings. "My dear Sibyl, you must go," exclaimed Harriet vehemently, "I shall be quite unhappy if you don't. I am sure you will not be wanted, for there is nobody to call. All the people that ever do come poured in last week, you know. So now you will just get into the Whitechapel like a good girl, and we will drop you at the lodge."

Mrs. Wilbraham, who joined them at this moment, was equally anxious that Sibyl should not forego her promised expedition. And the matter was just happily settled, when a rolling of wheels was heard. Harriet began to say good-bye, when a loud ring at the door bell made the trio start. Instead of the modest two-wheeled vehicle stopping the way, lo and behold, there was a blue phaeton with a pair of horses, and the German shutters closed!

"Who *can* these people be? How very tiresome!" exclaimed Harriet. And Mrs. Wilbraham could not help laughing at her disconcerted look, as they moved slowly into the library. "Well, my dears," she said, we are fairly caught; but of course, Harriet will say she has an engagement, and go off; and indeed Sibyl, so may you. Look here my dear, pop out through the drawing room window, and go down by the flower garden, for I am sure you have no time to lose."

Scarcely was the forcible expulsion of Sibyl effected, before the guests were ushered into the room and the door closed. Still, her sturdy dutiful conscience was not satisfied, and she lingered in order to waylay the footman and enquire who they were. On hearing that the party consisted of old Mrs. Lambert, her daughter, and grand-daughter, Sibyl no longer hesitated. It was impossible to leave the entertaining of three generations to poor Mrs. Wilbraham alone! Moreover, it would be a case of luncheon and walking round the garden afterwards; so Sibyl resolutely went upstairs, took off her bonnet, and put on a cap with cherry coloured ribbons in its stead.

In a very few minutes she found herself in the library shaking hands with the visitors and giving them as hearty a welcome as you could expect from a *very* honest person, whose darling scheme they had just overthrown.

Harriet was greatly relieved by Sibyl's reappearance."

Here the Family Sketch breaks off abruptly. It may have been my mother's intention to continue it and to include other members of the family. If so, the state of her own health, want of time, and the various troubles which came upon the happy family party, prevented her from doing so. In May 1849 her brother Richard's wife died, in 1850 her brother Randle had a bad accident and broke his leg, in the summer of 1851 came her own confinement, and in the following November her uncle Lord Skelmersdale was taken alarmingly ill at Rode and lay between life and death for a considerable time, his family being summoned. To make matters worse, the strain so affected Ellwood his valet that he went raving mad and had to be taken to an asylum. Fanny writes: "He talked of self-destruction and was very cunning in trying to get rid of his guards. Needful to secure him before the 12.5 train at Alsager. Fearful scenes, Dr. G. in the billiard room sent me to Laithwood for a sack to secure him in. We sat like a covey in the anteroom watching his departure. Great relief when he was gone, poor creature."

After three weeks of tension, Lord Skelmersdale recovered sufficiently to be taken home. To quote again from Fanny's notes: "We felt quite strange when they were all gone; and shall always look back with deep interest to that three weeks. It has brought the two families into the closest possible intimacy and affection, which we trust will never be interrupted."

During the year 1852 my mother's health was far from good. She had an attack of influenza, which confined her to the house for nearly three weeks in the months of March and April. Little Anastasia, also, was constantly ailing; suffering from cough and fits of convulsions. At one time her life was despaired of, and her anxious parents had many disturbed nights. On 11th July they returned thanks in church for her recovery; but she had a return of the trouble in the following winter.

My mother's diary shows that she had constant headaches, besides feverishness and shivering fits; and this made her at times rather depressed and despondent about herself. The death of her connection Mrs. Arthur Brooke, after giving birth to twins, which occurred late in the month of November would not tend to lessen this feeling.

On 14th December she had a painful and agitating scene with her nurse, who gave notice, and seems to have behaved abominably; and this wretched woman acted again in the same way on 18th.

In addition to all this, the modern antiseptic treatment which has done so much to lessen the risks of maternity by preventing puerperal fever was then unknown. This combination of unfortunate circumstances in the end proved too much for her. She was confined early on the morning of the 20th, and three days later her life was despaired of. The scene round her death-bed has been faithfully and minutely recorded by her sisters Fanny and Emily, who were in constant attendance—but the details would be out of place here. It is enough to say that her end was perfectly peaceful and happy. Her chief anxiety was for her husband and children, whom she earnestly commended to Fanny's and Emily's care. She chose the names that I was to receive; my father gave his promise that he would never marry again; and on the morning of Christmas Eve she breathed her last.

She was laid to rest, as she had desired, in Smallwood Churchyard on 29th. On 11th January 1853 (her wedding day) I was christened by my father, according to her directions, Sibyl and Fanny being the godmothers and my father's two brothers the godfathers. Emily was my sister's godmother, and I cannot say how much we both owe to our aunts, or how great a comfort they were to my father.

Up to the year of my grandfather's death the sisters had their home at Rode and their first thought was of their parents. I have not many memorials of this time, but there is a pleasant birthday letter written by my grandfather to Emily, who was on a visit to her aunt Lady Broughton, at Hoole near Chester. It runs as follows:

July 30th 1855.

Very many and all very happy returns of July 31st, to dearest Emily, whose health will (all prospering) be most cordially drunk by dear Harriet and self the only remaining troops in garrison. Tell your dear mother (with my best love however) that my mortification cannot be expressed at being voted a "tatterdemalion," but she is probably not aware how far the imputation inculpates herself, viz.: Tatterdemalion in Sheridan means a "ragged fellow," which no married man ought to be who has a tidy wife, for her duty is to mend his clothes as well as his manners. So her accusation would imply that she is neglectful in those main points, and instead of making up *my Rents* only helps to spend them. But pray tell her that the confession shall not be spread abroad by me, nor any ungenerous use made of her candour. Any attempt to convey *news* to you must fail, so that must be left to dear Fan the bearer of this, for dear Harry will have told you of (part torn off)[1] where Susan has so kindly invited her. From Thursday dear Sib. and your humble servant will be *tête-á-tête*, before which time my hope and trust is that her tooth and the pain attending the poor thing will be effectually stopped.

Non occorrendo altro.

Believe me with kind love,

(*Signature torn off.*)

1. The missing word is probably "Willington," the home of Colonel and Mrs. Tomkinson.

This letter shows that at 82 my grandfather's faculties were well retained, but afterwards both his sight and hearing became much affected. And I can only remember him as a complete invalid.

He must have been a very lovable man. Aunt Fanny said to me in one of our last chats, when reserve was quite laid aside: "I wish you had known my father, for I am sure you would have liked him." And I have often recalled the remark, and wondered whether some day or other we may meet our ancestors and descendants, and discuss matters of common interest on a footing of equality. How interesting it would be, and how many puzzling things would be explained!

My grandfather died at Rode 12th January 1861. And the Annual Register for that year contains the following obituary notice:

"Mr. Wilbraham was the representative of a younger branch of one of the ancient families of Cheshire, being the 15th in direct male descent from Sir Richard de Wilburgham, High Sheriff for Cheshire in the 43rd Henry III., who by his two marriages with heiresses of the House of Vernon of Shipbrook, and Venables of Kinderton, acquired large estates in the county, a portion of which is still in the possession of the elder branch of the family. During his long life Mr. Wilbraham was widely known for his liberality as a landlord, his unbounded charity, and for the stores of sound learning and the knowledge with which his cultivated mind was amply filled, which secured to him during the protracted period he "dwelt among his own people" the ever increasing respect with which he was regarded by them."

After my grandfather's death, his widow and four unmarried daughters left Rode and went to live at Chester; and several of the old servants went with them.

First and foremost of these was Martha Cratchley, the old nurse. Her father was a tenant at Rode; and lived at the little farm house, now pulled down, which had already been referred to as belonging at one time to John Cradock of Betley Court. She went to the Hall as nurserymaid, at the age of 12 in 1801.[1] She herself told me that soon afterwards, on 1st April, the nurse sent her down to the housekeeper for some "pigeons milk." The housekeeper referred her to the cook, and the cook passed her on to the dairymaid, who shouted "April fool!" In spite of this unfortunate start, her life at Rode was a very happy one; and she became quite one of the family. She saved Master Richard, the embryo general, from being drowned in the pool (into which he had fallen cocked hat wooden sword and all), and she was with them in Italy. Of course she took all the grandchildren under her special charge, and used to call us her little kings and queens. And she was a past-master in the art of giving castor oil.

The following note from my mother to her has survived:

"Smallwood,
Monday night (8th Nov. 1852).

My dearest Cratchley,

I wish you many happy returns of to-morrow, and I should like of all things to have seen you and kissed you on your birthday; but I do not feel quite up to

1. She well remembered the bad seasons and famine prices of 1799, 1800, and 1801, and the sufferings of the poor. For the prices see "Record of Seasons and Prices," by T. H. Baker.

a drive, and must be content to stay at home. I have had great pleasure in making you a housewife as a little remembrance of the day, and you must overlook all its imperfections and crookedness for my sake. What joy it will be to you all to see dear Emma to-morrow! You must kiss her from me and tell her I long to show her her little niece. We have a night-school twice a week and Frank is gone over to take his class. Do you remember how "funny the poor dear gentleman looked" when he handed you out of the carriage on the 9th of November, five years ago?

Good-night, my dearest old woman. With much love,
Believe me always yr very affectionate child.
CHARLOTTE TWEMLOW."

I do not know why my father should have "looked funny" on 9th Nov. 1847. Of course he was then very much in love. But the old lady was by no means insensible to humour; and would laugh till the tears ran down her cheeks, deprecating farther provocation with the "Now husht" that we were all waiting and hoping for. She lived 71 years with the family, and died at King's Buildings in 1870; her last words to my aunts being:

"The Lord is taking me home dears, and I am quite happy." She is buried in the family grave in Chester Cemetery.

The butler, John Harvey, who had been footman at Rode, was an excellent person too; and many a happy hour have I spent with him, carpentering in the pantry. One day he was allowed to take me to the races; and we went the round of the Roodee pretty thoroughly. I remember especially a tent in which was a big negro, who offered half-a-crown to anyone who could stand up to him, with the gloves on, for ten minutes (or was it fifteen?). We went in, and a brawny navvy accepted the challenge. But a difficulty at once arose about a stakeholder; hardly anyone in the tent seemed fit to be trusted with half-a-crown. Harvey was asked to act, but declined. At last somebody was found, and the fun began. But the money didn't change hands, for the navvy got tired of the black man's pommelling long before the time was up.

The house at Chester which my grandmother rented, was No. 5 King's Buildings, an old-fashioned brick house dating from early in the reign of George III. In front it had the city walls; and behind it there was a little garden (too small for cricket). The Welsh hills could be seen from some of the windows, which also looked over the open space that had been used as a burial ground during the Great Plague of 1603. Fanny was at this time in bad health, from the effects of nursing her father in his last illness. She suffered from blood poisoning, which led to disease of the bone of the right forearm; and for this a severe operation was performed by Sir James Paget. She suffered great pain, which had to be allayed by applications of hot bread and milk, mixed with laudanum and sugar of lead. This is impressed upon my memory, because I was caught tasting the mixture. So late as August 1862 Mr. Keble wrote to her: "This is not to draw a letter from you, for I know you ought to have all the rest you can every way, and my conscience almost smites me to think of your having written that kind, kind letter about C., when you were not fit to write at all."

But, as soon as she was fit to go about again, she and Emily began district visiting in the slums of St. Oswald's parish.

She writes how their hearts sank at first. "The children at play in the gutter looked mostly unwashed and unkempt. Some older girls and mothers, whom the sound of a wandering hurdy-gurdy had brought to their doors, looked listless, unfresh, and hollow-eyed. An individual, pointed out as a detective in plain clothes, was diving into courts and entries, and emerging again, like a bee from the bells of a foxglove. Morally and physically, the first *coup d'oeil* of our district was grim and bleak."

"Bleak in itself, bleaker by contrast. Heretofore we had, like the Shunammite, dwelt among our own people, in our own country home, where our fathers had dwelt before us. I do not say that the tenantry on the Rode Estate were all model men and women, nor the farms and homesteads round Rode Hall altogether Arcadian,—far from it: but there comfort and neatness were the rule, not the exception; the old kindly feeling towards squire and parson and their families was not ashamed to show itself; the sick and aged looked for our visits as a matter of course, and brightened at our coming; they looked to us to share their griefs and joys, and in return took no small part in ours. Many a prayer from many a cottage hearth had "covered" our Crimean brother's "head in the day of Battle"; many a kindly good wish had followed our sisters when they went forth from Rode to other homes; and when the "old squire" full of years and infirmities, and perfected by patient suffering, had fallen asleep, and the muffled peal from our grey church tower told that he was laid with his fathers, many had sighed at the sound of that knell as though it had been for their own kith and kin."

"All this was left behind, and it was not unnatural, I think, that Crook Street and Princess Street should appear to us by contrast dull and bare at first sight, or that we should feel, in school-boy phrase, "left out in the cold."

"However, it was *the* district, and that was enough. Mr. Johnson,[1] the senior Curate-in-Charge of this end of St. Oswald's large poor, and crowded parish, had assigned it to us, and was at our side, pointing out its limits, and the system on which it was to be worked.

To buckle to it "right womanfully," and bring plenty of hope-seed with us, to grudge no trouble, and look for no visible result—that was our business. The thistle, duty, must be grasped with both hands, and in due time it might turn into a sceptre."

At that time there was still old people in Chester who could remember the parliamentary election of 1807, when Sir John Egerton, Mrs. Wilbraham's brother, was elected, after some lively scenes on the hustings. But it is impossible here to give an account of their district visiting; this will be found in "Streets and Lanes of a City," the book which Fanny wrote in 1871, and which describes the most noteworthy incidents of the previous nine years.

1. Afterwards Bishop of Calcutta.

The climax of Fanny's work was reached in September 1866, when Chester was visited by the cholera. The Guardians provided beforehand a pauper hospital; but the difficulty was to find anyone to undertake the responsible duty of nursing the sick. She writes: "We found that these soidisant nurses were individually known to us as persons of more than doubtful honesty and sobriety. Conceive what it would be to trust such with stores and stimulants, and with the precious endangered lives of parents and children, husbands and wives—at a time of general panic too, for deep was the alarm with which Chester awaited the coming epidemic."

Accordingly, Miss Ayckboum offered her services as nurse; and Fanny, with her mother's permission, did the same. For ten long weeks these two devoted women remained at their posts; assisted by Miss Barker, who took charge of the convalescents in the day time. The "Guardian," in its review of "Streets and Lanes," has the following passage: "Then comes the simply told account of the last visitation of cholera, and how Miss Wilbraham and another lady volunteered to take charge of the pauper hospital, and absolutely did the whole nursing work themselves, including the first receiving and undressing of the sick, the dealing with strong men in the frenzy of fever, and the preparing the dead for the grave. We read the record, and hold our breath with reverence for the quite unconscious heroism that reveals itself while telling the story of the sufferers."

Another reviewer says, "Through their self-sacrificing zeal, many lives were saved, and a permanent change for the better was effected in the characters of many of the rescued. They themselves were mercifully preserved unharmed through the fiery trial, and it is interesting to read how, when the plague had abated, they, with the last convalescents in the hospitals, united in a special thanksgiving service in the parish church for all the mercies that had been vouchsafed to them, before dispersing again to their several homes."

Emily's work, then as always, was to help Fanny quietly and unobtrusively in every possible way. In Fanny's words: "Emily undertook the commissariat department for me, and daily hovered like a good genius round the walls, bringing home letters and cheering messages, and lovely bunches of roses from a kind nursery gardener, who said: 'They might perhaps cheer the ladies.' Above all, she brought good reports of our mother, who continued well and peaceful in her and Harriet's companionship." (It will be remembered that Sibyl had died in September 1863.)

On 4th December 1866, the Guardians of the Poor for the City of Chester, unanimously resolved:

"That this Board beg to acknowledge their best thanks to Miss Wilbraham, for her untiring endeavours, her unwearied attention, and Christian kindness, to the sufferers from cholera, during its prevalence in this City."

And at a Monthly Meeting of the Council of the City, held on the 9th January 1867:

"It was moved by Alderman Maysmoor Williams, seconded by Mr. Councillor Robert Littler, and

Frances Maria Wilbraham, 1815 - 1905.

Resolved unanimously that the warmest and best thanks of this Council be presented to Miss Wilbraham, Miss Barker, Miss Ayckboum and Mrs. Smith, for so nobly coming forward to the succour of the sick and dying on the occasion of the recent outbreak of cholera in this city, and the devoted attention and unwearied care, which they, during the prolonged course of the epidemic, bestowed, with so much Christian self-denial and fortitude, on the patients in the cholera hospital. That a copy of this Resolution under the Common Seal be sent to each of the ladies. WILLIAM JOHNSON,
Mayor."

Not long after this, my grandmother began to fail; and after a long illness, she died in May 1868 aged 87. She was a kind old lady, somewhat reserved, and she disliked all fuss and noise. When we were children, she used to set us to make up words with loose letters, and to play at "patience," with cards. I still have some little things that she gave me, more than forty years ago. Under this placid exterior, she must have had qualities of no ordinary kind; for she brought up a family of sons and daughters of which any mother might have been proud.

It is impossible for me to give a list of all the good works in which the sisters were interested, and took part between 1866 and 1905. I can only refer to a few of them, such as the restoration of the cathedral and the giving back to it of the south transcept, (which had been partitioned off, and made the parish church of St. Oswald's,) the building of a new church in its stead, the rebuilding of the King's school, the founding of a high school for girls, the improvement at the infirmary, and the reconstitution of the lying-in charity—all in Chester.

At Rode they built a new house for the clergyman, and made a substantial addition to the endowment. They also helped the Chester Diocesan Fund, Oxford House in Bethnal Green, and the bishopric of Melanesia.

Fanny was no inconsiderable authoress. Her poem, "Perils in the Mine," written when she was at Audley, has already been mentioned. Another of her early works was: "Tales for My Godson," written for Henry Tomkinson, the son of her travelling companions of 1841, who was born in 1842.

She wrote various stories for the "Monthly Packet," of which her friend Charlotte Yonge was editor. Some of these were: "Not Clever," "An Adventure on the Black Mountain," "The Exiles of Berezov," and "The Blue Posts of Chester." Other publications of hers were: "For and Against," a historical novel, dealing with the Wars of the Roses (1858); "The Young Breton Volunteer," a tale of 1815, dedicated to the Rode volunteers (1860); "Phil Thorndyke," and "Perils among Pirates."

"Streets and Lanes of a City," was published in 1871; and in 1884, "The Sere and Yellow Leaf." Of this latter book she says: "This is no Manual for Sickness, but simply an attempt at helpful thoughts as to how best our decline of life may be made profitable to our juniors." And Bishop Walsham How wrote of it: "Age has its holy and beautiful lessons for ourselves; but it has also precious things to bestow upon others. May God bless this book that it may help many so to use the years of lessening strength but of ripening experience, that they may

guard the young from the subtle temptations that beset them, and may foster in them those finer and more delicate graces which are the crown and finish of the true Christian life."

One of the most remarkable things about Fanny herself was that, in spite of advancing age, and blindness which was for many years total, she never lost touch with the young. She interested herself in their pursuits, and sympathised with their aims, besides comforting them in their troubles, and giving them excellent advice. She never became at all fossilised, but moved with the times, and kept herself *au fait* of all that was going on all over the world. And, though writing was difficult and painful to her, she never lost a friend by neglecting correspondence. Her generosity in giving was great, she was always thinking of the wants of others. And her rule was that to give *really* one must pinch oneself. She has been known on a bitterly cold day to give away some of the clothes she had on, and to return home without them.

Of her friendships her sister Charlotte wrote in 1849:

"There is no one, I will venture to say, more loved and prized than she is by her own family; and no one who has drawn to herself more warm and faithful friends beyond its circle."

Many more friendships were made between 1849 and 1905; and if a complete list were to be made, it would include many persons of eminence, statesmen, churchmen, writers, and philanthropists, and many worthies, some English and some foreign. This I shall not attempt to do; but a kind act on the part of the late Duke of Westminster ought to be mentioned. Hearing that No. 5 King's Buildings was to be sold, he bought the house himself, to insure that its inmates should not be disturbed.

After Harriet's death in 1891, Fanny and Emily lived together tête-à-tête, almost like husband and wife; Fanny by virtue of seniority and strength of character usually deciding upon their line of action, and Emily loyally co-operating. And so it continued to the end. The sight of one of Emily's eyes was injured by an accident; and at last she was nearly, if not quite, as blind as Fanny. She suffered a good deal from rheumatism, and her vital power failed before Fanny's, so that she would sit in her armchair for hours together in a comatose state, only rousing herself at the sound of Fanny's voice to make a sympathetic reply.

Fanny continued quite bright in the early months of 1905. I paid her five visits in January, February, and March; and she took great interest in this book, parts of which I read to her. After an absence of some weeks in Italy I saw her again in May, for the last time; and she did not then appear to be failing. But in June she became unconscious, and remained so for many days, passing away on Monday the 26th. Emily was at that time quite unconscious too, and never knew of her sister's death. She remained in that state for some weeks, dying on 28th June. So that it may be truly said of them, that "in their death they were not divided."

The funerals were in all respects similar, Fanny's on the eve of her 90th birthday, Emily's on the eve of her 89th. In each case the service was in the cathedral, and the interment in the cemetery. The choir was in attendance, and sang the 22nd hymn, A. and M., the concluding lines of which:

"Darkness is not dark with Thee,
Those Thou keepest always see
Light at Evening Time."

seemed so well to describe the last end of the two blind old ladies, who saw so clearly the things that "are spiritually discerned."

As a memorial to them, the windows of the Infirmary Chapel were filled with stained glass, and the dedication took place on All Saints' Day, 1906. The Dean of Chester delivered an address, the concluding words of which were as follows:

"Lastly, we also, in the name of Christ, give glory to God for those in whose memory the work of to-day is done. We render thanks for that they provided for the continuance of spiritual ministrations, and we recognise that through the goodness of God their works follow them. We are permitted to bless God's Holy Name for them, as departed hence in His Faith and Fear. It is not presumption, but by the warrant of sure and certain hope that we think of the ardent zeal of the one, tempered in Paradise, to be the quickened devotion of a spirit still eager in service. The other, humble in the submissive grace of gentle waiting and in unmurmuring patience, in her we recognise the hidden mystery of a life subdued and sanctified by the spirit of Christ in whose name we do all to the Glory of God."

There is also a memorial to them in the new chapel at Rode Heath, in the building of which they took so much interest.

Before leaving this family, it may be noted that Charlotte Wilbraham had, through her mother Sibylla Egerton, a considerable amount of Plantagenet blood in her veins, being 16th in descent from Edward III. in three different lines, two derived from John of Gaunt, and one from his elder brother Lionel of Antwerp. She had also royal descents from Thomas of Brotherton son of Edward I., and from Edward "Crouchback" son of Henry III.

For the pedigree showing their descents, which is given on the next page, I am indebted to the Rev. W. G. D. Fletcher F.S.A.

Sibylla Egerton's parents were both great great-grandchildren of Colonel John Lane, Bentley, Staffs, who, with his sister Jane Lane, did so much to assist Charles II. in his escape after the battle of Worcester.

Edward III. 1327—1377. = Philippa of Hainault.

Lionel of Antwerp = Elizabeth de Burgh. (Descendent of Edmund Crouchback, son of Henry III.)

John of Gaunt. = Joan Beaufort, m. Ralph Neville.

Edmund Mortimer, 3rd Earl of March = Philippa Plantagenet, dau. and heiress.

Sir Henry Percy, "Hotspur," slain 21st July 1403 (5th in descent from Henry III.). = Elizabeth Mortimer.

Henry Percy, 2nd Earl of Northumberland, slain 1414. = Eleanor, dau. of Ralph Neville, 1st Earl of Westmorland, K.G., by Joane Beaufort, dau. of John of Gaunt.

Edmund Grey, 1st Earl of Kent, d. 1489 (3rd in descent from John of Gaunt by his 1st wife, Blanche Plantagenet, and 4th in descent from Joan Plantagenet (the fair Maid of Kent, granddaughter of Edward I.). = Katherine Percy.

John Grey, 8th Lord Grey de Wilton, d. 1506 = Anne Grey.

Edmund, 9th Lord Grey de Wilton, d. 1511 = Florence, dau. and co-heir of Sir Ralph Hastings.

William, 13th Lord Grey de Wilton, d. 1562 = Mary, dau. of Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester.

Arthur, 14th Lord Grey de Wilton, K.G., d. 1593 = Jane Sibylla, dau. of Sir Rd. Morison, Knt., and Countess Dowager of Bedford.

Sir Rowland Egerton, 1st Bart., d. 1646 = Bridget Grey, dau. and co-heir.

Sir Philip Egerton, of Oulton, Knight, d. 1698 = Catherine, dau. and heir of Piers Conway.

Rev. Philip Egerton, D.D., of Astbury, d. 1726 = Frances, dau. of Thomas Offley.

John Egerton, of Oulton, d. 1770 = Elizabeth, dau. and heir of William Brock, of Upton.

Philip Egerton, of Oulton, d. 1786 = Mary, dau. and heir of Sir John Haskin Eyles Styles, 4th Bart.

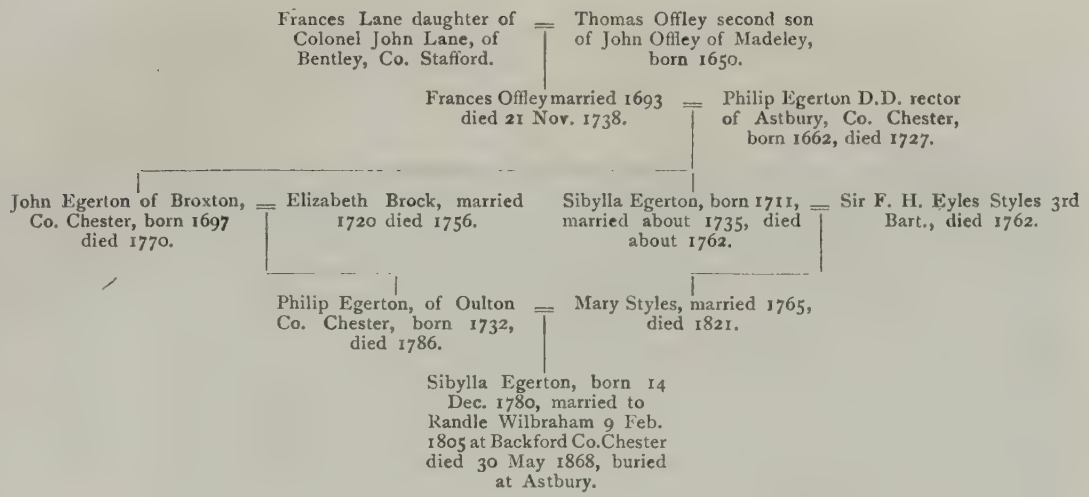
Randle Wilbraham, of Rode, b. 1773, d. 1861 = Sibylla Egerton, b. 1780, m. 1808, d. 1868.

Rev. Francis Cradock Twemlow, b. 1818, d. 1879 = Charlotte Wilbraham, b. 1821, m. 1848, d. 1852.

Francis Randle Twemlow, b. 1852 = Annie Mary Gertrude Lewis, b. 1858, m. 1882.

(18th) Evelyn Dorothy Twemlow, b. 1894.

NOTE.—Sir Rowland Egerton, 1st Bart., was descended from Joan of Acre dau. of Edward I., through the marriage of John Egerton, d. 1485, with Elizabeth Done, through the families of Audley, Stafford, Touchet, and Done; and was also descended from Thomas of Brotherton, son of Edward I.


Frances Lane daughter of Colonel John Lane, of Bentley, Co. Stafford.
Thomas Offley second son of John Offley of Madeley, born 1650.
Frances Offley married 1693 died 21 Nov. 1738.
Philip Egerton D.D. rector of Astbury, Co. Chester, born 1662, died 1727.
John Egerton of Broxton, Co. Chester, born 1697 died 1770.
Elizabeth Brock, married 1720 died 1756.
Sibylla Egerton, born 1711, married about 1735, died about 1762.
Sir F. H. Eyles Styles 3rd Bart., died 1762.
Philip Egerton, of Oulton Co. Chester, born 1732, died 1786.
Mary Styles, married 1765, died 1821.
Sibylla Egerton, born 14 Dec. 1780, married to Randle Wilbraham 9 Feb. 1805 at Backford Co. Chester died 30 May 1868, buried at Astbury.

4. My father's elder brother, THOMAS FLETCHER TWEMLOW, married 12th July 1849 ELIZA ANN, DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM PAYNTER, of Richmond, Surrey. I believe that the Paynter family comes from Cornwall, and is also connected with Staffordshire. But as to this, I have no precise information; and it hardly comes within the scope of this book. Mr. and Mrs. Paynter were living in Belgrave Square when I was a Law Student in London; and they were kind in asking me to their house, though they were then old and infirm, and not equal to much entertaining.

5. My father's youngest brother, JOHN FLETCHER TWEMLOW, married JESSIE BARBARA ARMITSTEAD, daughter of the late, and sister of the present Vicar of Sandbach, on 2nd August 1871. The wedding took place at Wybunbury, and I was "best man." Besides this marriage, there are two other links between the Armitsteads and Twemlows, viz.:

1. In 1787 Rev. John Armitstead married Katherine Fenton, sister of Lady Fletcher of Betley Court. They had a son Lawrence, who lived at Cranage, and had two daughters. But these are both dead, and have left no descendants. The late Vicar of Sandbach, Jessie's father, was a younger son of Rev. John Armitstead of Cranage, by his second wife, Mary Simpson. (See Ormerod, 2nd Edn. Vol. III., p. 129.)

2. Rev. John Armitstead, of Sandbach, Jessie's father, married in 1828, Susan Hester Massie, the niece of Harriet Frances Townshend who married Thomas Twemlow of Peatswood in the same year. From this last marriage, all the Armitsteads at present living in Cheshire are descended. Mrs. J. F. Twemlow became a widow in 1874; and in 1893 married Colonel John Kennedy of Brookside near Sandbach.

It is not of course my intention to write the account of my own married life, or to touch upon matters which are too recent to be given even a small amount of publicity. But I propose to end this chapter with a few facts concerning the Duckworth and Lewis families.

The Duckworths came from Lancashire, and originally spelt their name Dyke-ward. One of them, Rev. James Duckworth of Midleton, had a son Henry born about 1713, who was educated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and took his degree Jan. 1733. In 1754 he became Vicar of Stoke Poges near Slough (celebrated in connection with Gray's Elegy) and he held the living till 1794.[1] He also held the adjoining Rectory of Fulmer 1778-90, and was a Minor Canon of Windsor.

This gentleman had a son John Thomas, born at Leatherhead, 22nd February 1748. After being at Eton for a short time, the boy entered the Navy in 1759, and served in the "Diamond." In June 1770 he became Lieutenant, in which rank he served during the American War of Independence. He was on board Admiral Byron's[2] flagship, the "Princess Royal," at the indecisive battle with Count D'Estaing off Grenada in July 1779. After this he became commander, and was appointed to the "Rover" sloop; and in June 1780 he became Post Captain. In 1794 he commanded the 74 gun ship "Orion" in Lord Howe's fleet, and was present at the battle of 1st June, for which he received a gold medal and the thanks of Parliament.

In March 1796 he commanded the "Leviathan" in the operations against the island of Grenada, and he was still in the West Indies in the following July, as Commodore commanding at Cape Nicholas Mole St. Domingo. In 1798 he was back in the Mediterranean, and was commodore of the squadron that took part in the capture of Minorca.[3] In January 1799 he was gazetted Rear-Admiral, in May he was at Minorca with a Squadron, and was ordered by Lord St. Vincent to reinforce Nelson at Palermo.[4]

Early in 1800 he captured a Spanish convoy; and in March 1801 was naval commander of the force which occupied the Swedish islands of St. Bartholomew and St. Martin in the West Indies, for which service he was made a Knight of the Bath. He was Commander-in-Chief at Jamaica 1803-5, and became Vice-Admiral in 1804. During part of 1805 he was out of employment, and was on shore at the time of Trafalgar. But in November of that year, he hoisted his flag in the "Superb" as second in command of the Mediterranean fleet, and was blockading Cadiz when he heard that the Rochefort squadron had been seen near Madeira. He raised the blockade and went in search of it, and afterwards unsuccessfully chased another French squadron under Rear-Admiral Willaumez, bound for the East Indies. This took him so far south that he had to proceed to the West Indies for water and provisions, arriving there in January 1806. On 1st February he heard at St. Kitt's that a French squadron under Admiral Leissegues was at St. Domingo; and proceeding there he fought an action near Ocoa Bay on 6th. The French had five ships of the line (including "l'Imperial" a three-decker mounting 136 guns), and two frigates. Sir John had seven ships of the line (all two deckers, and two of them only 64 gun ships), and two frigates.

1. I do not know when and where Mr. Duckworth died. His wife Sarah died 17th May 1780, and was buried at Stoke Poges, aged 63.
2. Hon. John Byron, 1723-86, one of Anson's circumnavigators, called by the sailors "Foul-weather Jack."
3. Commodore Duckworth's despatch is given in the Annual Register for 1798, p. 153.
4. For the state of affairs in the Mediterranean, and the relations between Nelson and Duckworth at this time, see Captain Mahan's Life of Nelson, Vol. I. 418, and Vol. II. 1.

Admiral Sir John Thomas Duckworth, Bart., K.B.
From a painting by Sir William Beechey.

And Sir John's official report[1] shows that, according to his information, the French had at that time 10 ships of the line and 10 frigates and corvettes in those waters. The "Superb" went into action with a portrait of Nelson hanging in her rigging; and the success of the British was complete. Two of the French line of battle-ships were driven on shore and burnt, and the three others were captured. This victory came as a great relief to the people of Jamaica, who gave the Admiral a sword worth 1,000 guineas and a service of silver plate. London also gave him the freedom of the city; and he received the thanks of Parliament. It was fortunate for him that his movements led to a signal success, otherwise he would no doubt have been court-martialled for raising the blockade of Cadiz without the sanction of his superior officer, Lord Collingwood.

Early in 1807 he was in the Mediterranean again; and as Vice-Admiral of the White, he commanded the squadron which forced the passage of the Dardanelles and threatened Constantinople. His flagship was the "Royal George."[2] The squadron passed the Dardanelles on 19th February, and returned 3rd March.

From 1810 to 1813 he was Governor and Naval Commander-in-Chief at Newfoundland. In November 1813 he was created a Baronet. And from 1815 till his death he commanded at Plymouth. He represented New Romney in Parliament; and he died 31st August 1817.

The above is a bare outline of his public career, gathered from various printed works. But I am able to fill in the picture a little from letters, family tradition, and other private sources of information.

As to his joining the Navy, the late Sir John used to say that his father when at Eton was a great climber, and quite cut out for a sailor; so much so, that a boy who was offered a cadetship, and did not wish to take it, suggested him as a substitute.

Then, with regard to his first marriage, which took place at Stoke Damarel near Plymouth in July 1776, his wife was Anne, daughter and heiress of J. Wallis, Esq., of Trentonwoonwith, near Camelford, Cornwall; and by her he had two children, George Henry born 25th June 1782, and Sarah Anne born 1st September 1784. The son was educated at Westminster and Christ Church Oxford, was with his father in Jamaica in 1804[3], married Penelope, daughter of Robert Fanshawe, Esq., Commissioner of the Navy, by whom he left an only daughter and heiress Anne, married to Sir Robert Percy Douglas, Bart. He became a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army 14th January 1808[4]; and was killed in command of the 48th Regiment at Albuera, 16th May, 1811. The daughter married November 1803 Captain Richard King, R.N., who commanded the 74 gun ship "l'Achille" at the battle of Trafalgar, and afterwards became Admiral Sir Richard King, 2nd Bart.[5]

1. See British Museum Additional M.S.S., 23,207, folio 285.
2. His official report of this business is to be found in the Annual Register for 1807, p. 659.
3. See Lady Nugent's Diary, published 1907.
4. Baronets' book at Heralds' College, Vol. III., p. 260.
5. The father of this Captain King had commanded the "Exeter" on the East India Station, under Sir Edward Hughes, and seen much hard fighting. He afterward became an Admiral, and was created a baronet in 1792.

As to his command of the "Orion," the official reports which he rendered to Lord Howe of the movements of that ship before and during the great battle of 1st June, 1794, will be found annexed to Lord Howe's despatch at the British Museum. (Additional M.S. 23,207 folio 64). And, as a memento of that battle Captain Duckworth received from a friend and admirer a large two-handled silver cup, with a cover surmounted by Neptune with his trident. It is engraved with the arms of Duckworth impalling Wallis;[1] and bears the following inscription:

"In memory of the most splendid Achievement
Recorded in the Naval History of Britain,
And from a just sense of the Fatherly Protection,
The brilliant and instructive example of
John Thomas Duckworth Esq.
Commander of His Majesty's Ship "Orion,"
So kindly afforded, so signally displayed,
To a young Noviciate in the Perils and Glories of War.
This token of veneration and gratitude
Is respectfully presented by Edward Baker
June 1st 1794."

This cup is now at Peatswood, but as to the donor I know nothing except what appears in this inscription. Duckworth's letter to Nelson of 4th October 1804, shows that ten years later he had a friend named Baker who acted as agent or lawyer for him. Perhaps this gentleman was the donor of the cup, and had a son serving as midshipman on the "Orion." The cup has the hall-mark of 1794.

The two following letters are of interest. The writer was the well-known William Fitzmaurice, 2nd Earl of Shelburne and 1st Marquis of Lansdowne, who had filled important offices of state in the early decades of George the Third's reign. His character is summed up in Lord Mahon's History of England Vol. V. 209, and in Lecky's History of the 18th Century Vol. IV. 209. He naturally sympathised with Duckworth, whose wife lay on her death-bed, because he had himself twice suffered a similar loss. The Mutiny at the Nore was in June 1797, and there was much disaffection throughout the fleet. The period was a very anxious one, the French and Spanish navies being numerically superior to the British. I do not understand the meaning of the phrase: "I gave you up for gone." Duckworth had several attacks of yellow fever in the West Indies, and attributed his recoveries to copious bleeding of the nose to which he was subject. He may have had one of these attacks about this time.

The date on the letter of 12th April might be 1799; but at that time Duckworth was Rear-Admiral, not Commodore, and also apparently at Minorca, not in England. So I think 1797 is meant.

1. The arms of Duckworth are given below. Those of Wallis are Gules, a fess, and canton ermine.

"From the Marquis of Lansdowne to Commodore Duckworth.

Bath,
12th April 1797.

Dear Commodore,

I congratulate you very sincerely upon your safe return, the more so as I own I gave you up for gone. I do not think that you can do better than come and drink the water for a month here, in which case you will find a bed at No. 58 G. Pulteney-street very much at your service, and such fare as consists with temperance and wholesomeness. If not, I hope I shall find you at my return to town to thank you for two very kind and informing letters, in which you refer to others which have not found their way.

I am, Very truly yours,
LANSDOWN."

"Bowood Park,
13th July, 1797.

Dear Commodore,

Your letter gave me great pleasure, for I cannot help being uneasy about the Fleet. It was the nobility of Vienna who insisted upon the Emperor's making peace upon any terms, having got quite wearied with the war.[1] But what analogy there can be between them and our seamen, I cannot imagine. None of my correspondents in London expect peace, and as soon as the negotiations break off I take it for granted the Invasions of Hanover, Portugal, and Great Britain and Ireland will be attempted. I am not in pain about the worst if you meet them, but if you do not, it is difficult to foretell the consequence.

I feel for you very much about Mrs. Duckworth.[2] Her long and severe illness tells both ways. It prepares you for what may happen, but at the same time I know by experience the very occupation a sick person gives, adds to the blank.

The ladies desire their best compliments to Mrs. and Miss Duckworth, and hope to see the latter in town."

Believe me, always most truly yours,
LANSDOWN.

P.S.—Pray make my compliments to Mr. Cottrell, if it does not commit your dignity too far.

The following letters to Duckworth from Nelson St. Vincent, and Hood, under all of whom he had served, are interesting as showing how warmly he was appreciated by those most capable of forming a sound opinion. And they afford an answer to the carping criticisms of William James, the Naval Historian, who gives Duckworth credit for few good qualities. James was a Proctor in the Vice-Admiralty Court at Jamaica; and perhaps there had been some friction between the two men, which would account for the obvious prejudice on the part of the author.

1. The provisional treaty of Leoben was made 18th April; and the treaty of Campo-Formio was concluded 17th October, 1797.
2. Mrs. Duckworth died 21st August, 1797, and was buried at Sheviock, Cornwall.

There is a pleasant touch of nature about some of the letters. And I may here remark that Duckworth was a collector of all sorts of good things, not of drugs only, when opportunity offered. A few bottles of his rum still survive; and in years gone by I have enjoyed some of his Madeira; his house in Devonshire was full of Honduras mahogany; and he made a purchase of Sevres china, which some sixty years after his death was sold for a large sum of money.

All the letters addressed to Duckworth are now the property of Mrs. F. Loring, who kindly allowed me to copy them. The letters from Duckworth to Nelson are in the Manuscript Department at the British Museum.

Additional M.S.S., British Museum, 34, 926 folio 27.

"From Sir John T. Duckworth to Lord Nelson.

Shark, Port Royal,
October 4th 1804.

My Lord,

Your kind letter of 19th of March from off Toulon has recently reached me, and I feel truly gratified at those expressions of friendship and approbation you do me the honor to retain towards me, and I encourage the hope there never can be a cause which will induce your lordship to alter such flattering sentiments.

I shall ever feel highly obliged by your lordship's attention in having brought to issue our extraordinary lawsuit; and I must own the Earl's[1] instituting it operates in my mind against his head and heart, for much as I respect him I have not urbanity enough to let him ride off on Mr. Tucker.

The claim of the Marquis De Niza seems if possible still more absurd, for had he with his whole Portuguese squadron fell in with the Spanish frigates, he dare not have molested them. I therefore upon the ground of want of reciprocity have some months since requested my friend Mr. Baker to consult with your lordship's lawyers and join in indemnity or whatever steps they may choose to take, also to pay my part of the attendant expenses on this or the former cause; but I am astonished to find from him that Mr. Tucker refuses our proposals or even to lodge the money in the Bank. I therefore conclude this will ensure the payment of interest.

The present intentions of *my friend* La Touche[2] Treville to [3]*again beat* your lordship may probably afford me an opportunity of being personally acquainted with him in England, for should he come out with a force your lordship ought to contend against; I am not alarmed for the Issue; but that it may exceed, if possible, the brilliancy of all your former exploits, is my devout and earnest prayer, and that we may soon have the pleasure of talking it over at your lordship's cottage at Merton, for if more active service doth not arise here before the spring, I will not risque another unhealthy season, as the last has given me a severe shake.

1. St. Vincent. The lawsuit was about prize money.
2. La Touche Treville commanded at Toulon in 1804. He died there 20th August, in that year.
3. This no doubt refers to the repulse of the boat-attack on Boulogne, 15th August 1801. See Mahan's Life of Nelson, Vol. II., 137.

I have no recent account of *General Dessalines'* proceedings in St. Domingo, but report says he has declared himself *Emperor* of Hayti, a good burlesque on that pest of society Buonaparte. The plan you suggest about the Blacks has been tried, but their demands as a prelude to commercial arrangement were too absurd and extravagant to be listened to. We therefore are courteously watchful they do no wrong, and I feel they will dwindle into nothing.

While your lordship's friend Mr. Brent continued here, your lordship's patronage procured him all the attentions of society, but poor fellow he was so disappointed that the Income of the place he came to fill did not exceed £200 a year that he cut his stay very short, indeed it would have been impossible for him to have existed upon it.

As your lordship's return to England must be in some degree uncertain, I shall desire Mr. Marsden to forward this. And I have the honor to be with real respect and regard, my good Lord, your Lordship's most faithful and sincere humble servant.

J. T. DUCKWORTH."

Additional M.S.S., 34, 930 folio 174.

"SIR JOHN DUCKWORTH TO LORD NELSON.

Stoke, Plymouth Dock,
August 21st 1805.

My Lord,

Finding by the papers that your lordship has arrived at Portsmouth, I cannot help feeling anxious to know how you do after the unparalleled trying and harassing service *to the mind*, you have so highly to the honor of our country and the profession so exemplarily followed up, without the glorious reward of having such endeavours crowned with success.[1] Indeed, I feel for you more than I can describe, and fear to know the effect it may have upon your constitution. Feeling you kindly take an interest in me. I can only concisely sum up that my recall, the precipitate court martial on my arrival, with the subsequent conduct of the Admiralty, and their general costiveness whenever I have had occasion to address them, induces me to believe that I shall not be required to embark again soon. I therefore, should report be true of your lordship finding it necessary to come on shore, shall have the honor of paying my compliments at Merton.

Lady Hamilton will have told you that we had the pleasure of meeting in town, and in addition to her usual kindness to me, she added that most pointedly to my daughter Mrs. King. Pray assure her of our mutual kind wishes. And I have the honor to be with high esteem my Lord very respectfully,

Your Lordship's most obedient and humble servant,

J. T. DUCKWORTH."

1. This, of course, refers to the long and fruitless chase of the French fleet.

"LORD NELSON TO SIR JOHN DUCKWORTH. Merton,
August 26th 1805.[1]

My Dear Duckworth,

Many thanks for your kind letter of 21st. And if Bonny will allow us I shall rejoice to take you by the hand very soon at my cottage. I am very sorry that any Admiralty should let your zeal and active services lay idle, it cannot be long so, none of your friends my dear Sir John more highly prizes your public services and private friendship than myself.

Lady Hamilton desires best regards to you and to Mrs. King.

No news of the combined Squadron.

Ever my dear Sir John,
Your much obliged friend,
Sir John Duckworth, K. Bth. NELSON & BRONTE.

Additional M.S.S., 34, 931 folio 150.

"SIR JOHN T. DUCKWORTH TO LORD NELSON.

Stoke, Plymouth Dock,
September 10th 1805.

My Lord,

I am honored with your Lordship's very friendly letter, and should have been highly gratified to have personally assured you of my respect and regard, but as I consider the present moment gives a fair opening for hope that your Lordship's undaunted Perseverance after the Combined squadron may yet be rewarded, I will beg you to believe you carry with you the warmest wishes of a faithful friend that you may add to your abundant laurels, and return crowned with glory and honor.

[2]I beg to know whether you have given any instructions to Haslewood about Tucker, as also my lord Keith's Secretary *Mr. Brown*, who presume to keep from us the prize money due for Spaniards, under pretext of the right of the Marquis De Niza, because whatever be your lordship's sentiments thereon, I shall attend to. As I am told that application has been made to the King on behalf of the Marquis, probably your Lordship's weight in representing of facts might promote His Majesty's coming to a direct decision.

Being much interested in the success of a Mr. Williams Lloyd, midshipman with Captain Keate in the Superb, who has passed his examination, I should be obliged to you to take him under your patronage, should his Captain represent him as deserving, for I am not acquainted with his character, but esteem his parents. God bless you, my good Lord, and that success may attend your operations is the ardent hope of, My Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and sincere humble servant. J, T. DUCKWORTH.

The Viscount Lord Nelson, Duke of Bronte, K.B., &c., &c., &c."

1. Nelson returned to England 18th August, with the "Victory," "Belleisle," and "Superb," which required docking. Nelson himself had been at sea since June, 1803.
   Nelson sailed again, 15th September, in the "Victory," and joined the fleet off Cadiz on 28th. The "Belleisle" joined the fleet before 13th October. The battle of Trafalgar was on 21st October. Sir John Duckworth, in the "Superb," arrived off Cadiz 15th November.
2. This refers to the capture, between 20th March and 7th April, 1800, by the "Leviathan," "Swiftsure," and "Emerald," under Sir John Duckworth, of two Spanish frigates and nine other vessels, bound for Lima. See Additional M.S.S., 34,917 and 34,932, folio 90.

"Victory off the Eddystone,
September 17th 1805.

My dear Sir John,

I could not answer your kind letter of 10th, as I was every moment engaged in settling my affairs both public and private. Perhaps this letter will not find you at Plymouth, for I know it was intended to offer you your flag as 3rd in command in the Mediterranean fleet. I am aware and said so at the admiralty that you having served so long and so honorably as commander in chief might not wish to take an inferior station, but that if you did it would give me most sincere pleasure to have you and to profit by your skill and gallantry. With respect to our Law business with the Marquis De Niza, I understood Haslewood that it would come on this next term. Tucker has paid Marsh and Creed so much in Exchequer bills which interest is accumulating, but how much the amount I do not recollect or whether if we share that yours is paid, but Haslewood and Marsh and Creed can tell you and whatever you order Haslewood to do I am sure will content me. I have not heard of any application to the King, but I have instances against myself when the King would not interfere for me upon the principle that what was given away could not be rescinded. If we take the Enemy's fleet, I should hope to provide for all our young men, but I have not had one vacancy except Admiralty ones for near two years, but Mr Williams Lloyd shall be put on my list, and in that as in all other things I shall be most happy to meet your wishes.

Being ever, my dear Sir John, your most obliged and faithful servant,

NELSON & BRONTE.

Sir J. T. Duckworth, K.B."

Additional M.S.S., 34,931 folio 199.

"Sir John Duckworth to Lord Nelson.

Stoke, Plymouth Dock,
September 14th 1805.

My Lord,

When I had the honour of writing you from Exeter, where I was called to be enrolled among the freemen with your lordship, I little thought I should on my return home experience the gratification I did by receiving a letter from the First Lord of the Admiralty, acquainting me that my services were required in the fleet under your command. Believe me, to serve under your lordship's auspices is a pleasure next to being in command myself, and this I trust will be proved to you by actions.

As I have not been in the habit of being civilly treated since my return from service, which I had been led to believe I had correctly performed, I have little to expect from the Admiralty, nor has any communication been made of the ship it is intended I should hoist my flag in, or my captain or officers, who with my band, cooks, &c., are in the Acasta off Brest. But I have expressed to the First Lord that the good of the service is blended with that of having officers you have a reliance on, and am preparing to embark whenever called upon.

If your lordship is near Lady Hamilton, I will beg you to keep Mrs. King and myself in her and Miss Nelson's remembrance, and we unite in every good wish for your lordship. As I have the honor to be very respectfully, my good lord, your most obedient and faithful humble servant,

J. T. DUCKWORTH.

P.S.—Your lordship will, of course, command me if I can be made useful here.—Yours &c.. &c., J.T.D."

Additional M.S.S, 34,931 folio 214.

"Sir John Duckworth to Lord Nelson. Stoke, Plymouth,
September 25th 1805.

My Lord,

The intended departure of the Belleisle to-morrow to join your lordship affords me an opportunity to acknowledge the honour of your truly kind letter of the 17th, when off the Eddystone, where I beheld you with particular avidity, having prepared myself to directly embark in consequence of Lord Barham's laconic letter saying my services were required in the Fleet under your lordship's command, and that orders would be directly given for my hoisting my flag in one of the ships now under immediate orders for that station, which I directly acquainted your lordship of, and accepted with pleasure, though flattering myself that I should have the honour of being your second, for the nearer I could approach your lordship the stronger the effect in imitation of your glorious example, but wherever I am placed the best of my abilities will be employed to establish those sentiments you so flatteringly apply to me, and I with confidence assert it will be my highest gratification to evince from my zeal the happiness I feel in serving with you, and though the Admiralty endeavour to check my ardor by giving me a spurred[1] and doubled ship, the Formidable, yesterday out of dock without a man ; refuse me to have all my officers, and *can't promise me my Band,* which was apparently retained for me in the Acasta with Captain Dunn, and to which I have paid an annual income, this is increasing the injury I have already received from the Board which they well know I feel, but it will not operate to gratify their hope of my declining service, and my utmost exertions shall be used to join your lordship. Mr. Hazlewood having received directions whilst I was in the West Indies to consider me as blended with you in the negotiation about the Marquis De Niza's right, which I have since repeated, I conclude the money which your lordship mentions as paid in Exchequer bills must be for both our shares, but if the Admiralty refuse giving me a three decker manned and in readiness, I shall, with concern I say, have sufficient time to go to town and talk over the subject, when I shall have the pleasure of receiving good Lady Hamilton's commands.

1. "Spurs are pieces of timber fixed on the bulgeways, and the upper end bolted to the shipside above water, for security to the bulgeways." See Stalkartt's Naval Architecture, published 1782. The bulgeways are the longitudinal timbers on the outside of the ship, below the waterline, on which the ship rests when on the "ways" before launching. Doubling appears to mean the insertion of extra timbers to support the original ones.

It would seem, therefore, that the "Formidable" had become so weak with age, that she required a kind of strait waistcoat to hold her together. She was a ship of 98 guns, and apparently the same ship that had carried Lord Rodney's flag in 1782. The old "Wooden Walls" lasted a long time. Nelson's "Victory" was launched in 1765, and was therefore forty years old at the time of Trafalgar.

I am much obliged by your lordship's kind intentions towards Mr. Lloyd, and I anxiously hope the enemy will give your lordship the opportunity alluded to of rewarding the meritorious.

Feeling very warmly interested in everything that has reference to Captain King, my son-in-law, I hope your lordship will forgive my solicitation for l'Achille being retained under your command. His little wife begs to be honored with your remembrance, and I have the honour to be, my good lord with real respect and regard, your lordship's most obliged Friend and faithful humble servant.

J. T. DUCKWORTH,

To the Viscount Nelson, K.B., Duke of Brontée."

"FROM LORD ST. VINCENT TO SIR JOHN DUCKWORTH.

Dear Duckworth,

I have found my excellent friend Lord Grey,[1] in a very low state, yet I think by the means now employed for the re-establishment of his health, he will rally. He has frequent occasion to use castor oil, and has none good, therefore if you have not, in your usual liberal way, disposed of too much of yours, have the goodness to send a bottle to his house in Hertford Street, May Fair.

Secret. Entre nous soit dit. I have reason to believe, that William Pitt[2] will soon descend from his height, and take the office of Secretary of State, and should the arrangements be such, as I can trust my honor under, I shall certainly no longer decline the command of the Fleet, with all the honors annexed which Lord Howe[3] possessed, in which event, should no command in chief, worth your acceptance present, the office of First Captain[4] will be in your option.

Give my kind regards to Mrs. King and the little boy[5] and my best regards to Mrs. Wallis,[6] and be assured I always am,

Yours most truly,

ST. VINCENT.

Alnwick Castle, 30th August 1805."

1. Charles Grey was a distinguished general officer, who made his reputation in the American War of Independence. He was known as the "No-flint" General, because he used to make his men remove the flints from their muskets, and trust to the bayonet only. He was made a Knight of the Bath in 1782. He was Commander-in-Chief in the West Indies, and in conjunction with Sir John Jervis captured the island of Guadeloupe, July 1794. He became Lord Grey in 1801, Earl Grey in 1805, and died in 1807.
2. The meaning of this is not very clear. Pitt, after living in retirement from 1801, formed his second administration 12th May 1804, and died still in harness in January 1805. It is true that he was not Secretary of State, but First Lord of the Treasury.
3. Lord Howe died in August 1799.
4. First Captain, i.e., Chief of the Staff.
5. The little boy was the third Sir Richard King, born 12th September, 1804, died 1887.
6. Mrs. Wallis seems to have been Duckworth's mother-in-law, who had survived her daughter.

"From Lord St. Vincent to Sir John Duckworth.

Dear Duckworth,

I heartily wish you success wherever you go, and both Lady St. Vincent and myself will be very glad to see Mrs. King, her little boy, and Captain Duckworth; both in Mortimer Street and at Rochetts.[1]

My tour has been delightful beyond all description, without an incident of alloy ; I go to Lord Cholmondeley's to-morrow at his chateau near Nantwich, and to my brother's, Meaford, near Stone, Staffordshire, on Tuesday, the 24th, where business of some moment will detain me until the first of October, on which day I shall set out for Town. and if you happen to be there and will eat your chop with me on 2d. I shall be glad to see you.

Most truly yours,

[2]Norley Bank, *21st September 1805.* ST. VINCENT.

I conclude Lord Nelson runs up to Palermo, and leaves you in the Blockade of Cadiz ; and that Vice Admiral Collingwood and Sir Robert Calder rejoin Admiral Cornwallis." ST. V.

"From Lord Hood to Sir John Duckworth."

Greenwich, *September 25th 1805.*

My Dear Sir John Duckworth,

I give you a thousand thanks for your very affectionate letter, and was very confident your remonstrance against the Formidable would be successful, and am told the Belleisle is to carry your Flag to our friend Nelson. May health and success attend you both.

I shall at all times be highly gratified by a few lines from you, and hope when opportunity offers you will not be unmindful of one who regards and esteems you equal to any friend you have.

Our affairs brighten upon the continent, Bavaria would not be bullied by the Corsican tyrant, has not only decided against him, but has united her army to that of Austria.

My dear Lady Hood's[3] suffering were great in the extreme for three days in the last week, but by getting rid of a vast quantity of Bile she was relieved, and since this day sennight has been more easy and comfortable in her feelings than for weeks before, and our good sister Hollwall is perfectly recovered from a very serious illness. Both unite in all good wishes to you and your amiable daughter, with my dear Sir John,

Your very faithful and obliged humble servant,

HOOD.[4]

P.S.—I beg to trouble you with a letter for my friend Hallowell.[5]

1. Lord St. Vincent's place in Essex, near Brentwood.
2. Norley Bank at this time seems to have belonged to a Mr. Nuttall. In 1811 it was bought from him by Rev. Rowland Egerton (afterwards Egerton Warburton). It is near Northwich.
3. Lady Hood died in May, 1806.
4. This very distinguished officer had been Rodney's second in Command at the battle of Dominica, 12th April, 1782, and had commanded the Mediterranean Fleet 1793-6. He was afterwards Governor of Greenwich Hospital.
5. Captain Benjamin Hallowell commanded the "Swiftsure" at the battle of the Nile.

The diary of Lady Nugent (published 1907), whose husband Sir George Nugent was governor of Jamaica 1801-6, gives a vivid account of life in the West Indies a hundred years ago. It contains many references to Sir John T. Duckworth, who was naval commander in chief there 1803-5, and shows that socially he was a pleasant man. Society in Jamaica went the pace in those days, and entertaining seems to have been incessant. Lady Nugent left Jamaica in 1805, before her husband's appointment came to an end; so there is no reference in the diary to Sir John's return to the West Indies early in 1806.

With regard to the expedition to the Dardanelles, this was undoubtedly a failure. And of course James put much of the blame for this upon Sir John, who—according to him—possessed neither ability nor firmness. But the Annual Register for 1807 says (p. 200) 'Sir John Duckworth appears to have done everything that was possible, to effect the object of the expedition; but the expedition itself was so ill contrived, that success was not to be expected. It was generally condemned, not only as being injudicious and weak, but silly and childish."

So that evidently public opinion laid the blame upon the Ministry, whose policy appeared to be to conciliate the Sultan by burning his capital.

If the plans of the English Government were unwise, the means adopted for carrying them into execution were equally futile. The writer in the Annual Register continues, "It was also observed that it was a miserable oversight not to have sent with the fleet a force capable of co-operating with it by land. The capital of the Turks could not have been taken or kept if we had sent an army of 30,000 men. But even a small force might have debarked behind the fortresses on the Dardanelles, which on the land side were defenceless, and destroyed them, which would have opened a safe passage to other English troops, if it should have been thought proper to send them thither for continuing or supporting their operations, or at all events have secured a safe retreat for the English Fleet from Constantinople."

It does not appear therefore that Sir John's professional reputation suffered in consequence of the failure of the expedition against the Turks. At any rate he was given the responsible post of Governor and Naval Commander at Newfoundland, at a time when our differences with the United States were by no means friendly, and afterwards the chief command at Plymouth.

As souvenirs of the passage of the Dardanelles, there remain at Wear House, his Devonshire home, several of the stone round shot, about two feet in diameter, which lodged on the ships, and also a brass Turkish cannon.

The Admiral's grandson, Captain George St. Vincent King,[1] who commanded a ship in the British Black Sea Fleet in 1854, found a round shot which had been sticking in one of the Turkish forts since 1807, and brought it home.

On 14th May, 1808, Sir John was married a second time to Susanna Catherine Buller, daughter of the late Dr. William Buller (1735-96) Bishop of Exeter. The Bishop's father was John Francis Buller, of Morval, and his mother was daughter of Bishop Trelawny, one of the seven prelates sent to the Tower by James II. in 1688.

1. Afterwards Admiral Sir G. St. V. King, 4th Bart.

Bishop Buller married in 1762, Anne, daughter of Bishop John Thomas[1] of Winchester.

Sir John had by this second marriage a son John Thomas Buller Duckworth born 17th March 1809;[2] who on the death of the elder son Colonel George Henry Duckworth in 1811, became heir to his father.

In November 1813, he accepted a baronetcy, and was given supporters and augmentations of arms; but he considered himself entitled to more than he got. Honours were but grudgingly conceded to the navy during the great war; and James tells us that George III. was anxious to give Lord Howe the garter after his victory but was prevented by his ministers. Sir John considered that he should have had a baronetcy in 1798, for the part that he took in the reduction of Minorca; but the claim was not admitted. After the battle of St. Domingo he expected a peerage, and refused a baronetcy. His second in command, Admiral Louis, actually got a baronetcy within two months of the battle, and thus gained precedence of his former chief.

Sir John got the red ribbon of the Bath in 1801; and when the order was reconstituted in 1815 he became G.C.B. I gather from Lady Nugent's diary that at the beginning of the 19th century the order of the Bath was more highly esteemed than a baronetcy.

The old arms of Duckworth date, I believe, from the reign of Charles II, and are Argent; a Chevron azure charged with three crosses pattee of the field, between three ducks proper. The crest, was on a garb fessways or, a duck proper; signifying "Duck wheat," a canting allusion to the name.

The coat granted in 1813 was as follows:

Argent, on a chevron azure between two ducks proper in chief, and a naval crown of the second in base, a bomb fired between two estoiles or; on a chief wavy also azure the words "St. Domingo," within a branch of laurel entwined with another of oak, in letters of gold.

CREST: A Tower, the battlements partly demolished, from the top flames issuant, proper. On the sinister side a sea lion erect azure, the paws pressing against the tower.

SUPPORTERS: *Dexter*, a human figure holding in the exterior hand a sword erect, proper, pommel and hilt or, around the head a halo composed of [3]17 estoiles, of the last; across the dexter shoulder a belt azure pendent, under the feet the hide of an ox, proper. Sinister, a British sailor habited proper, holding in the exterior hand a flag staff, thereon a flag of a rear admiral of the white, proper, inscribed with the word "Minorca" in letters of gold.

1. There is at Peatswood a cream-jug which belonged to this Bishop, and has his crest on it.
2. The Admiral seems to have been afloat at this interesting time. At the end of February a French Squadron escaped from Brest, and he was sent off with eight ships of the line in pursuit of it. In the following July he sat on the Court Martial which acquitted Lord Gambier.
3. The dexter supporter of course was meant for Orion; but the late Sir John used to say that the heralds had got muddled over their mythology; and that the oxhide properly belonged to Thesens, who slew the Minotaur.

I do not know why the halo consists of 17 stars; whether it is because that is the number of stars in the constellation, or because the "Orion" was one of the 17 seventy-four-gun ships in Lord Howe's victorious fleet, or for some other reason.

MOTTO: "Disciplina fide perseverantia."

When Napoleon arrived at Plymouth in the Bellerophon in July 1815, Sir John was in command at that port. But he declined to go on board, and sent his wife and little son to represent him. And so it came to pass that the second Sir John, at the age of seven, was patted on the head by the fallen emperor. He was also cured of being gun-shy about the same time; a cannon being by his father's orders fired off daily close to him, till he became accustomed to the noise.

The Admiral was a well-known figure in parliament, and was the last M.P. who wore a pigtail. When he sat in the gallery and looked down into the house, the pigtail cocked up behind in an absurd manner. So much so that the recollection of it made the solemn Sir Robert Peel laugh heartily thirty years afterwards.

As already mentioned, his first marriage took place at Stoke Damarel in 1776; and apparently he had his home there for 30 years.[1] But in 1806 he bought from Mr. William F. Spicer a property about two miles from Exeter on the Topsham Road, with a house upon it known as Wear [2]House, which he added to and improved. As the conveyance is dated 13th March, the purchase must have been completed immediately after his victorious return from the West Indies. The alterations to the house may have taken some time to carry out, especially as the Admiral was away on duty in 1806-7; and possibly they were not finished at the time of his second marriage. At any rate the elder son of this marriage the late Sir John was born at Downes in March 1809; and a second son (named William, who died in infancy), was born at Wear[3] about a year later. On the death of the Admiral in 1817 this property devolved upon his only surviving son John Thomas Buller Duckworth, second and last baronet, who held it for over seventy years. The admiral provided that, in case of the failure of his male issue and the extinction of the baronetcy, the landed property and heirlooms should pass to his daughter Lady King and her descendants.

The second Sir John was very well-known and much respected, especially in his native county. He was educated at Eton and Christ Church; and when he first went to court, he had great difficulty in persuading William IV that he was the son and not the grandson of the Admiral. He and the King had quite an argument about it, which was ended by the King saying "Well whoever you are, I am very glad to see you."

With regard to his public life, he was elected M.P. for Exeter in 1846, and sat for some years, afterwards becoming one of the referees of private bills in the House of Commons. He was for a long time chairman of Quarter Sessions. He served for 50 years in the Devonshire yeomanry, which of course he commanded. And a silver inkstand presented to him by some of the non-commissioned officers and men on his retirement is now at Peatswood.

1. Lady King was baptised at Stoke in 1784, and married there in 1803.
2. The name is also spelt Weare and Ware. It comes from the weir on the Exe at this point, known as "Countess Wear." The late Sir John once received a letter addressed to him at "The Warehouse, Exeter!"
3. Baronets' book at the Heralds' College, Vol. III., 260, where, however, the date of Sir John's birth is given as 1808 instead of 1809, and some of the other dates are also wrong.

As to his private life, he remained a bachelor until he was forty-two. His mother lived with him at Wear until her death 27th April 1840. In his young days he had been much attached to a lady, who died; and it is said that he rode from Oxford to Bath and back again, on relays of hacks, to meet her at a ball. However on 17th December 1850, he married his cousin Mary Isabella, daughter of John Buller of Morval by his wife Harriet daughter of Sir Edward Hulse of Breamore.[1] Lady Duckworth was 18 years younger than her husband. They had one son who died in infancy, and three daughters, the youngest of whom, Fanny Catherine, died young. The second daughter, Evelyn Harriet, was born 18th August 1857, married 17th December 1878, at Topsham, to Francis Randle Twemlow, and died at Wear, after a long and painful illness 23rd June 1880. Sir John died 29th November 1887; and his landed property and heirlooms passed to the Admiral's grandson, Sir George St. Vincent King, father of the present baronet.[2] Lady Duckworth bought a house in Exeter, called Knightleys, at the top of St. David's Hill, where she and the elder daughter took up their abode. Lady Duckworth died in March 1902; and her last surviving daughter, Mary Georgiana, born January 1852, who had been for many years a great sufferer from rheumatic arthritis, died in the following September. Knightleys has since been pulled down. There are monuments to the Duckworths at Topsham Church, Countess Wear Chapel, and St. David's, Exeter.

7. The family of Lewis is of great antiquity in Glamorganshire, orginally the name was Llewellyn, and the Lewis family is a younger branch of that of Llewellyn of Rydlavar. The arms which they use are gules (formerly or) three chevrons argent, with a paschal lamb for a crest.

The family at one time possessed considerable landed property in the parishes of Michaelstone and St. Fagans, near Llandaff; but this has now all been sold, and only the monuments in the church and the entries in the Registers remain to show that the Lewises once had their home there.

Annie Mary Gertrude Lewis (commonly called Gertrude), who 11th July 1882 married Francis Randle Twemlow, at St. George's Hanover Square, was the daughter of Rev. Edward Lewis, fourth son of William Lewis of St. Fagans and was born 31st October 1858. Her father was born in 1825 and held the Rectory of Harescombe with Pitchcombe, near Stroud in Gloucestershire. He died July 1878. His wife was Ann daughter of Rev. John Clemson Egginton, of Bilbrook near Wolverhampton, by his wife Ann James, of Newnham-on-Severn. Ann Egginton was born 15th April 1832 married at Cheltenham, 1857, and died 17th November 1858.

1. Lady Duckworth was thus a granddaughter of the Mary Lethieullier already mentioned in connection with the Wilbraham family.
2. While these notes were in typewriter's hands, Sir Dudley Gordon Alan Duckworth-King died, after a short illness, 13th February, 1909.

End of Part II.

Part III.

THE HOMES.

CHAPTER IX.

1. BETCHTON. *Description of the township, history of the manor. Richard Wilbraham (1525—1612) purchases manorial rights in Betchton, his law suit, his grandson Thomas (1589—1643) entertains King James 1617, marries Rachael Clive, improves his house at Nantwich, goes to Scotland with King Charles 1639, troubles of 1642, his death, his widow marries Colonel Lothian. Roger Wilbraham (1623—1708) buys and sells land, including the manor of Rode, marries his cousin 1656, his children, founds almshouses at Nantwich. His son Randle (1663—1732) marries Mary Brooke, lives seventeen years at Rode, father of the "Counsellor." Connection of the Twemlows with Betchton. Josiah Twemlow at Betchton 1703—28. Difficulty of identifying the Twemlow home in Betchton, the Wilbraham papers at Delamere solve the problem, the old house pulled down 1904, description of it, other old Betchton families.*

2. ARCLYD. *Description in George Twemlow's inventory 1704. Home of the Lingards before 1658, previously belonged to the Brayne family, the house burnt down in the 18th century. Site of the old house and of the existing farmhouse, description of the latter. Will of George Twemlow 1778. Note on Arclyd families. Old oak chests.*

3. SHELTON. *Description of "Cannon House," George and Thomas Twemlow live there 1760—88, sell it in 1800.*

4. THE HILL, NEAR SANDBACH. *Description before 1860, many changes since then. Earwaker's account of its ownership not confirmed by the title deeds. The house built by Thomas Grainger in 1733, and enlarged 1788—9 by George and Thomas Twemlow, modern alterations.*

5. PEATSWOOD. *S.1.—The Land. S.2.—The house and grounds. S.3.—The black and white farmhouse. S.4.—Outlying parts of the estate in 1909.*

S.1. *The Peats of Almington 1524—1742. The Prestons and Skrymshers, Edward Sneyd (1693—1780). His niece Frances Horton dies in 1785. Her son Eusebius of Catton sells Peatswood to Thomas Dicken 1787. Boundaries of the land, additions to it. Sir John James Markham takes a lease of Peatswood 1752, marries Sarah Clive, his family, heir of Thomas Whorwood of Denton, dies 1778, his widow lives on at Peatswood, and afterwards at the Grove, where she dies 1828. Thomas Dicken buys Tyrley Castle and other land in Tyrley in 1791, makes an exchange with Hester Yonge 1798. Map of Tyrley Castle land in 1740, changes in its boundaries between that year and 1791, making of the Peatswood pools. Dicken's embarrassments, sells Peatswood and Tyrley Castle to Thomas Twemlow in 1808. Additions to the estate up to 1872, the canal, additions and changes since 1872. Letters of Edward Sneyd and George Parker.*

S.2. *The house at Peatswood, founded 1685—1705, enlarged 1726, again by Markham 1752, a third time by Dicken about 1795—8, a fourth and fifth time by Thomas Twemlow in 1812 and 1824, and a sixth and seventh time by the present writer in 1881 and 1903. The garden and grounds, the Landscape School. Italian gardens made to be* LIVED *in.*

S.3. *The black and white farmhouse at Peatswood, as far as possible a reproduction of the old Twemlow house at Betchton.*

S.4. *Outlying portions of the Peatswood estate in 1909. 1. Weston. 2. Swinchurch. 3. Manor Farm, Alsager.*

6. BETLEY COURT. *Built by John Cradock 1715. Cradock family, Abnett family, Betley parish and manor, Egertons and Tollets. The house in 1758, enlarged about 1783, again by Sir Thomas Fletcher in 1793 and 1809. Sir Thomas sells his house in Newcastle in 1808. Name of "Betley Court" dates from 1807. Modern alterations.*

7. DODDLESPOOL. *Home of Francis Cradock Twemlow 1873—9. Added to the Betley Court estate 1903.*

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1. BETCHTON.

I PROPOSE to write of Betchton under four heads. First, beginning with a general description of the township. Secondly, giving some account of the lords of it, and more especially (as promised in Chapter VII part 3) of the Nantwich branch of the Wilbrahams in the 17th and 18th centuries. Thirdly, tracing the connection of the Twemlows with it. And fourthly, saying something about their actual home there, and their immediate neighbours.

1. The township is in Sandbach parish, and lies to the south-east of the town. Unlike most of that parish which is in the hundred of Northwich, it is situated in the hundred of Nantwich. It includes 2665 acres of flattish country, from 250 to 300 feet above the sea. Two brooks pass through it; and a third forms its south-western boundary against Alsager and Hassall for a distance of nearly three miles beginning at Cresswellshawe Farm and ending at Malkins Bank Salt Works. All these brooks rise in the Mow Cop range, and after their junction form the river Wheelock a tributary of the Weaver; and they have cut themselves valleys from 50 to 100 feet deep in the flat tableland. A fourth little tributary brook forms the western boundary of Betchton towards Sandbach township; the eastern and northern sides have no natural boundaries. The main road from Sandbach to Rode Heath and the Potteries passes through the middle of it, nearly in a straight line, dividing it into two almost equal parts. Of the two brooks which run through it, the northern one, after passing Rode Mill, and Bodenhall (or Bidnall), enters the township near the Lynn House, and flows by Betchton House, the Brook Farm, Dean Hill (where it crosses the main road above mentioned), Sandbach Vicarage, just below which the little western boundary brook runs into it, and so to join the southern brook at Wheelock. The other one, which comes down by Lawton and Rode Heath, enters Betchton at Thurlwood, runs past Chell's Hill, and falls into the southern brook between the

upper and lower mills at Roughwood. The upper mill seems to have been the ancient one of the manor and was there in 1609; the other I take to have been made by Thomas Wilbraham in 1627. The Sandbach branch of the North Staffordshire Railway follows the south-western boundary of Betchton pretty closely, and the Trent and Mersey Canal also runs through the township from Thurlwood to Malkins Bank. The salt works at the latter place are in Betchton; borings were first made for brine in 1692.[1]

2. The ancient manor of Betchton, or Becheton, was, in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries held by the lords [2]Audley from the king in capite; and in the sixteenth century this overlordship had passed to the Cottons of Combermere. Under the lords Audley the mesne manor was held by a family named Becheton, who had the "canting arms" of Azure three spades (bêches) or. About the time of Richard II. the rights of this family devolved upon two co-heiresses one of whom married a Davenport of Henbury and the other a Fitton of Gawsworth; and the mesne manor was held in moieties between these two families until towards the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

In (1593) the Fitton rights were sold to Thomas Egerton, afterwards lord chancellor and Viscount Brackley, for £1000. At some time during the next twenty years, these rights were purchased on behalf of the freeholders. The rights were not extinguished, but held by four trustees, known as the "Lords of Betchton," who continued to hold courts as before, all profits being divided among the freeholders. This arrangement still continues, and Mr. Wakefield of Sandbach, the present steward of this half of the manor, has given me much assistance.

The greater part of the Davenport rights was about the same time (16th October, 1602) sold by Randle Davenport to his cousin, Sir Hugh Beeston, and Geoffrey Shakerley of Holme. Sir Hugh Beeston sold it again 4th May 1609, for £1,780 to Richard Wilbraham, the founder of the Nantwich branch of the Wilbraham family, and builder of Townsend House in that town.

This Sir Hugh was the son of Sir George Beeston (one of the admirals who fought against the Armada, and whose tomb is at Bunbury), his mother being Alice Davenport, the aunt of the Randle who sold Betchton. He was evidently a close-fisted man, for Sir Roger Wilbraham (a younger son of the Richard who bought Betchton), writing of him in 1598, observes that "Hughie Beston works better with a rake than with a shovel." He seems to have driven a hard bargain on this occasion for, whereas the freeholders purchased the manorial rights over one complete moiety of Betchton manor for £1,000, Richard Wilbraham had not long after to pay £1,780 for two-thirds of the remaining moiety, Betchton House and some 200 acres having been retained by Randle Davenport.[3]

Richard Wilbraham also bought 20th March 1610, the paramount rights over the whole of Betchton, from George Cotton, of Combermere,[4] but the price paid does not appear in the conveyance. This led to a long and troublesome

1. Wilbraham papers at Delamere, Halls' Nantwich, 432.
2. Ormerod, Vol. III., 297.
3. Earwaker's Sandbach, 150.
4. Original Deed at Delamere.

lawsuit, the point at issue being whether the freeholders who stood in the place of the Fittons were under an obligation to pay a chief rent of twelve pence a year to Richard Wilbraham. The latter, though 88 years old, filed his bill in Chancery, and the wrangle went on under his successors. The Wilbrahams were ultimately successful, but their victory was rather of the Pyrrhic kind. The chief rent was paid in 1655, and in April 1665, Roger Wilbraham, the great grandson of Richard, notes :—"I sold then the said rent and services to the trustees of the freeholders of Betchton for XX li., after a tedious suit."[1]

I have studied the papers relating to this suit at Delamere. They are in the cursive hand of the period, and not very easy to read. They are, of course, very prolix, with Bill, Answer, Replication and Evidence, imputations of bad faith, and arguments on abstruse points of black letter law.

But the real gist of the matter seems to have been whether the overlord could prove that the freeholders held from him by "knight service," with all its onerous and vexatious accompaniments, such as aids, reliefs, wardships, and marriage. [2](See Joshua William's Real Property 10th Edn. p. 117).

Part of the bargain between the King and the Nation at the Restoration of King Charles II. was that these feudal tenures should be abolished, and this was accordingly done by a Statute (12th Car. II. c. 24) of 1661. And this no doubt explains Roger Wilbraham's willingness to sell his rights for such a small sum in 1665.

Richard Wilbraham died 2nd February 1612,[3] and was succeeded by his grandson Thomas born 29th June 1589. The latter was a highly refined and scholarly man, who took pleasure in acquiring knowledge. Hall says that he matriculated at Brasenose in 1613,[4] but I do not find his name in Foster's Alumni Oxonienses. He was a barrister of Lincoln's Inn, and he travelled abroad for two years to study languages, 1614-1616. In 1617 he entertained King James at Townsend House and in 1618 he made another foreign tour. The papers at Delamere shew that he had a Frenchman staying with him at Nantwich for some time, and some of his accounts are kept in French.

On 24th March 1619, he married Rachael, daughter and heiress of Joshua Clive, of Huxley, a relation of the Clives, of Stych.

[5]In 1622 and 1623 work was being done at Townsend House, the buttery was being altered, and a new study made for the Squire. For some purpose, probably in squares for flooring, ragstone was required from Kerridge, a place which lies between Macclesfield and Bollington. It had to be brought all the way in ox waggons, and at that date the roads were such that heavy traffic could only be carried on in the height of summer when the mud was dry and hard.

1. Wilbraham M.S.S., Delamere.
2. The Freeholders cited the verdict of the Jury at the Inq. p.m. of Sir Thomas Fitton in 1494, which was that Sir T. Fitton held half the manor of Betchton from James Lord Audley *in socage* by payment of 12 pence a year.
3. Inq. p.m., see Hall's Nantwich, p. 425.
4. Hall's "Nantwich," p. 425.
5. M.S.S. at Delamere.

The following entries occur :—

		£	s.	d.
1622.	July 5th. Given to the servants which came with the rag from Betchton, being 8 loades and carried 45 apiece...	0	2	6
	July 6th. More given to Twemlow's servants	0	1	0
	August 7th. To John Blagge for a rood of Kerridg ragg	1	1	4
	More for skaffling them	0	11	6
1623.	July 17th, to the Betchtonians when they brought ragg, which was given them to drinke	0	2	6

The roof was covered with "blew slate," of which two thousand double slates were required (Webb says that blue slate was at that time quarried in Cheshire).[1] These were brought to Nantwich from Chester by Hugh Alcock at the moderate charge of 6/8 per thousand. The dining-room was panelled in 1627.

Under Thomas Wilbraham Townsend House reached its zenith. Great pains were taken with the gardens and orchards, the best of the then known fruit trees being planted. An account is also given of the making of walnut-wood furniture: and it is evident that what taste and skill and expenditure could do to make the place charming, was done. The site however had not been well chosen; being low and flat and near the river, besides being in the suburbs of Nantwich. As the town increased and more and more salt-boiling was done, Townsend House must have become less and less pleasant as a residence. Thomas' son Roger who owned the place 1649-1708, though a man of great energy and ability, does not seem to have been at all given to construction. (He did not even build new almshouses as a memorial to his wife, but adapted some cottages that had been built by his father.) I have not come across any evidence that either he or his son Randle, or his grandson Roger, did much to improve Townsend House. And by 1780 we are told that it had fallen into decay and been abandoned.[2] Nothing of it now remains, nor any picture to show what it was like. Elizabethan architecture was not much accounted of in the 18th century.

In the present charming home of the Wilbrahams at Delamere there is some carved oak work from Townsend; and also some very good panelling which seems to date from the reign of Charles I.

In Thomas Wilbraham's accounts we read that in 1622 he paid "To Philip Moots for marking trees at Buerton and choosing them forth 2s. 6d." If these trees furnished the existing panelling, we may congratulate Moots on having made a good selection.

But to return from Townsend House to Thomas Wilbraham. In 1628 he was made an Esquire of the body of Charles I. and in 1639 he accompanied the King to Scotland. But afterwards his health broke down, and he had many

1. Ormerod, Vol. I., p. 130.
2. Hall's "Nantwich," p. 435.

troubles.[1] In September 1642 he was at Bath taking the waters; but he was accused of disloyalty, and was at much pains to clear himself of the charge. On the other hand his Roundhead neighbours at Nantwich tried to get money from him for carrying on the war, and failing to do so kept him a prisoner in his own house. Being set at liberty he took refuge in Sussex with Sir Thomas Pelham, who had married his first cousin;[2] and there shortly after he died of a fever.

His wife Rachael survived him, and lived till 1657. At some time between 1643 and 1646 she took as her husband, a Scotchman named Lothian or Louthian,[3] a colonel in the Parliamentary army. He was a brave and vigorous man, and no doubt a valuable protector to the widow and her young family in those dark days. We gather however from the notes of his stepson Roger that the colonel was canny,[4] not to say grasping, in money matters; and not a welcome addition to the family circle, though it was good policy to keep on friendly terms with him. Roger Wilbraham, the third son[5] and ultimate successor to Thomas, writes as follows of these disturbed times:

"My father died at Halland a house of Sir Thomas Pelham's in Sussex October 18th 1643 my brother his heire being then in France from wch time till Candlemas 1645-6 (at which time Chester was surrendered) ye profits of the whole estate were very inconsiderable and served only for a pretense subsistence for our family."

"My brother Thos. Wilbraham dyed at his house in Nantwich, December 19th 1649 aetat suae 27, appointing me sole executor of his last will and testament."

A full account of Roger will be found in Hall's History of Nantwich. He was born 3rd November 1623, educated at Repton School and Catherine's Hall Cambridge, and called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in Easter term 1649. It seems that during the six years that his brother owned the estates, the management of them devolved upon Roger and his uncle Ralph. Ralph kept books, but his writing is so bad that it is most troublesome to read. Roger had a long reign, viz: from 1649 to 1708. As already remarked, he does not seem to have been a builder; but he was a great man of business, managing his estates himself, and making full notes of what he did and giving his reasons. He was also a painstaking antiquary. He was a great buyer and seller of land. Between 1658 and 1665 he bought Petton in Shropshire from a man named Chambre, selling land in Hatherton, Walgherton, and other places to make up the purchase money.[7]

In 1664 he bought Brereton's tenement in Alsager, which I take to be Cresswellshawe Farm still part of the Rode property; and also another farm in the same township, known as the "Hole-house."

1. Hall's "Nantwich," 426.
2. Mary, daughter of Sir Roger Wilbraham, of Dorfold.
3. Hall, 145, 182.
4. Wilbraham papers. (See also the covenant in Stanway's lease, Appendix D. ii)
5. Richard, the eldest son, died young.
6. The rent book at Delamere does not show any Betchton entries for this time. The rents for 1648 were paid in full. There is a lease dated Dec. 1646, in Appendix D., to Stanway, who paid a fine of £160.
7. I do not know when Petton was sold again. The bell at Petton Church has upon it: "Long live Roger Wilbraham, Esq., 1662."

In 1669 he records: "I purchased of my Cos Rode the manor of Rode the manor house and what remained of the demain lands togr. with the water cornmill there with other privileges and perquisites which were valued at £110 a year."

The correspondence which preceded the purchase has been preserved at Rode, and is curious. Randle Rode had sold off various portions of his estate, and only retained Rode Hall and the land immediately round it, valued at £110 a year in all. On this the sum of £1000 had been advanced by a mortgagee, a certain Thomas Lovatt, of Eardley End in Audley Parish. (This Thomas Lovatt was brother-in-law of the fourth of the seven John Cradocks, whose history will be found in article 6 of this Chapter under "Betley Court.") And this mortgagee, who already had bought a slice of Randle Rode's property, was anxious to foreclose. He would thus have secured 11 per cent for his money, besides acquiring a nice compact estate. But Roger Wilbraham was prepared to give a better price, which would satisfy Lovatt's mortgage and leave Randle Rode something in hand. Accordingly Roger rode to Newcastle, and paid Lovatt his money. But the latter then declined to give a receipt, or to hand over the mortgage deed, saying that he had lost it. What happened exactly we are not told. But evidently Roger carried his point; for his descendants not only have the deed, but also the Rode property. Lovatt subsequently in 1673 made over the farm in Rode, which he owned, to his brother-in-law Cradock, in whose family it remained for three generations—his grandson, the sixth John Cradock selling it to Roger's grandson, the Counsellor, in 1748. The farm was called the Snellacres, and extended in a long narrow strip from where the new church is, to the south-west end of Bratt's Wood. This covert takes its name no doubt from Cradock's tenant of 1748 who was Samuel Bratt. There is a map of the farm extant, it is on parchment, and has John Cradock's arms in one corner. It is dated 1728.

In 1676 Roger bought Fulshaw, near Wilmslow but he sold it again in 1682.

In 1656 he married his cousin, Alice daughter of Roger Wilbraham of Dorfold, and they had eleven children. The two eldest sons died in 1675, and their mother died of grief in the following year. The widows' almshouses in Welsh Row Nantwich were instituted by her husband in memory of her.

Thomas, the eldest son, was educated at Christ Church, Oxford. He appears in Foster's Alumni Oxonienses as having "matriculated 14th June 1672, aged 15 ; born at Dorfield, 23rd May 1657, died in 1675."

[1]The following note by his father about the cost of his education is at Delamere. "It cost me in all to furnish and maintaine my sonne at Chr. Church in Oxford, in less than three yeares to wit from May 1672 to our Lady Day 1675—£370." Many fathers would be glad if Oxford education could be done at the same rate now.

Roger Wilbraham was Sheriff in 1669-70, and he was nominated to be one of the "Knights of the Royal Oak" at the Restoration, but the proposed order was never established. He died 19th March 1708, and his monument is in Nantwich church. Unfortunately no picture remains of him, or of his father Thomas.

1. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

He was succeeded by his son Randle, born 24th August 1663, who had married 25th October 1687, Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Brooke, of Norton. There had been an idea of his marrying somebody else, but this business "swerved," [1]to use Roger's word, owing to a disagreement between the fathers over the question of settlements. Soon after his marriage, Randle went to live at Rode, and remained there for seventeen years.[2] Most, if not all of his nine children were born there. Like his father he had the misfortune to lose his two eldest sons ; and it is curious that in three successive generations the third son should have become the heir.

Randle was a good scribe, and has left many interesting M.S.S. relating to his property and family affairs. He was educated at his father's old college Catherine's Hall, Cambridge, being admitted a gentleman commoner in July 1680.

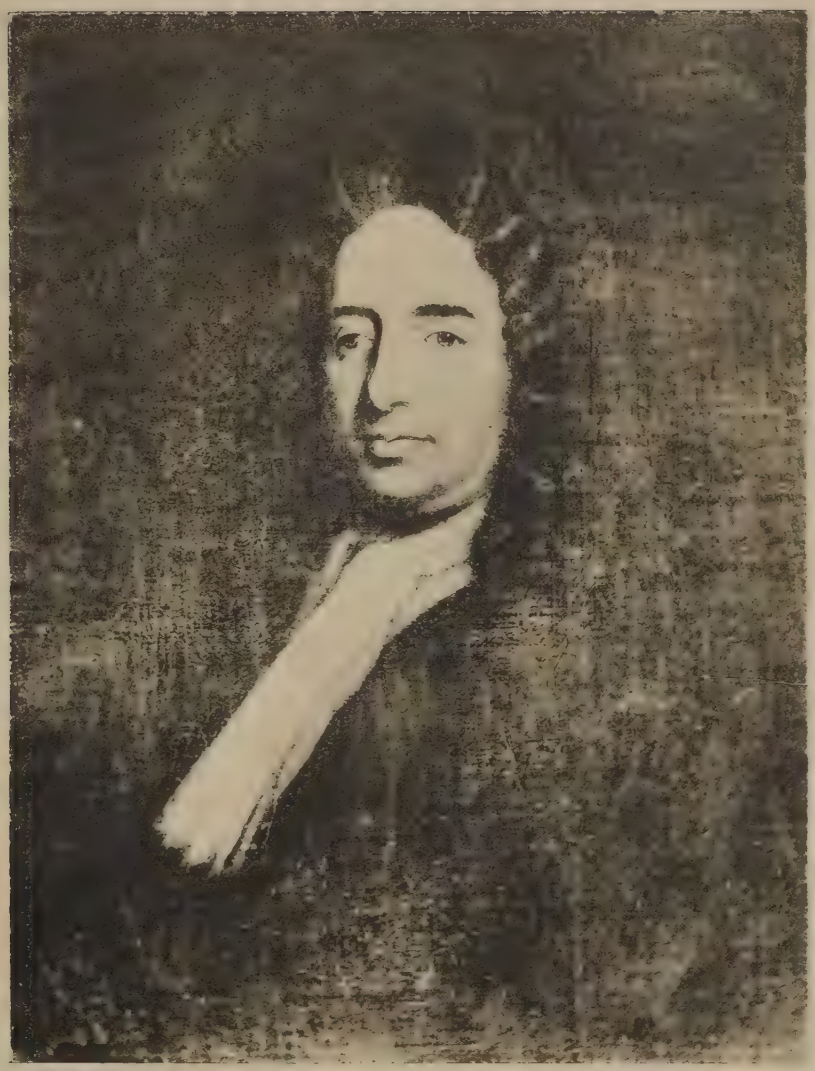
He did not have a legal education like so many of his family. There is a picture of him at Delamere, and he is interesting, so far as this book is concerned, as being the father of Randle Wilbraham, the learned lawyer, who founded the Rode branch of the family. He seems to have been a kind and liberal man, his accounts constantly showing sums given away in presents. He was Sheriff of Cheshire in 1714, and has left an account of his journey in state from Nantwich to Chester, mentioning his satisfaction at the warm reception he received along the route.[3]

[4]Unlike many of their descendants, at Rode especially, both Randle and his father were smokers of tobacco.

3. We now come to the connection of the Twemlows with Betchton, but it is unnecessary to go again over the ground which has already been covered in Chapter II.

The earlier leases are not in existence, nor is there any record of their dates. The first one granted by the Wilbrahams was dated 22nd June 1638, and given to John Twemlow (the younger) for three lives—his own, his wife Mary's, and his son George's. It will be remembered that he died in 1659, and his wife in 1670. In 1671 George took out a new lease, but nothing is known about it except that he paid a fine of £160. As he lived at Arclyd, the Betchton tenement was sublet, and none of the family lived in it for more than thirty years. George had freehold property in Arclid, Betchton, and Smallwood, which provided for his wife and his two elder sons. Accordingly, on the marriage of his third son (Josiah) in 1703, he made the old home over to him, and Josiah lived there for twenty-five years, dying there in 1728. When he went there Roger Wilbraham was still alive (aged 80 years), but all his recorded transactions took place with Roger's son Randle. The brick addition to the old timber house was a matter of arrangement between them, but there is no record of the terms. Josiah's initials and the date 1709 are on the iron door-plate, which came from there and is now at Peatswood, from which one infers that the work

1. Wilbraham papers at Delamere.
2. Randle's evidence about the Astbury tithes.
3. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.
4. Hall, page 432.



Randle Wilbraham, 1663—1732.
From an oil painting by Otley.

Mary, wife of Randle Wilbraham.
From an oil painting by Otley, dated 1711.

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was approaching completion at that time, and that some portion at any rate of the expense must have been borne by the lessee. This addition must have been a great improvement to the house, and have rendered it one of the best in Betchton. Randle Wilbraham himself made use of it on one occasion, for there is an entry in his accounts of "one shilling given to Mr. Twemlow's man," when he paid a visit to Betchton in June 1714.

For a younger son Josiah Twemlow was comfortably off, and his inventory[1] shows that his house was "well-found." The farm, for which he still paid the old rent of twenty-three shillings and twopence, was valued in 1725 at forty guineas a year, and the great tithe upon it belonged to him.

In 1714 he consolidated his land by an exchange with his neighbour, as appears in Randle Wilbraham's note—"Mem.: that John Shore sold ye two Moseley's[2] part of Broome's tenement to Josiah Twemlow; and also gave to ye said Twemlow the closes called Little Long Butts, a meadow, and part of the Great Long Butts in exchange for the Little Lorne Croft, and it was agreed two shillings and fourpence should be abated of Shore's rent and transferred to Twemlow, and new leases were sealed to said Shore and Twemlow conformable to their agreement." On this occasion a fine of £5 was paid to Randle Wilbraham.

On 9th April 1719, a new lease was taken out, the counterpart of which is preserved at Delamere, and a copy is given in Appendix D. iii. The lives were those of himself, his wife, and Hannah, third daughter of John Amson, Esq. The fine paid was £115, of which Randle Wilbraham returned four guineas. The lease was a "Freehold Lease."

In consequence of the death of Hannah Amson, a new lease was again taken out in 1723, in which her sister Mary's life was substituted for hers; and a fine of £100 was paid, of which £4 6s. 0d. was given back. In 1728 Josiah died, aged 57, a heriot of eight guineas being rendered in September.

His wife did not long survive him, her heriot being accounted for in January 1729, in this case of four guineas.

The remainder of the lease was left by Josiah to Anne Amson, who married Peter Shakerley; and thus the long connection of the Twemlows with Betchton came to an end.

4. Now as to the place itself. When my search began in 1904, there was nothing to guide me as to its whereabouts, all trace of the Twemlows and their habitat before the year 1654 seeming to be utterly lost. When, through the kindness of the present squire of Delamere, the Wilbraham papers became accessible, and the puzzle seemed to be in a fair way towards solution; the actual fixing of the spot remained for some time a matter of difficulty. But at last the desired result was attained by working back from an old map of 1745 on which was marked "Roughwood Farm," "late Shackerley's." It gradually became obvious that Shakerley led back to Amson, and Amson to Josiah

1. Given in Appendix C. iii.
2. These fields adjoined the Brook Valley. See Appendix iii.)

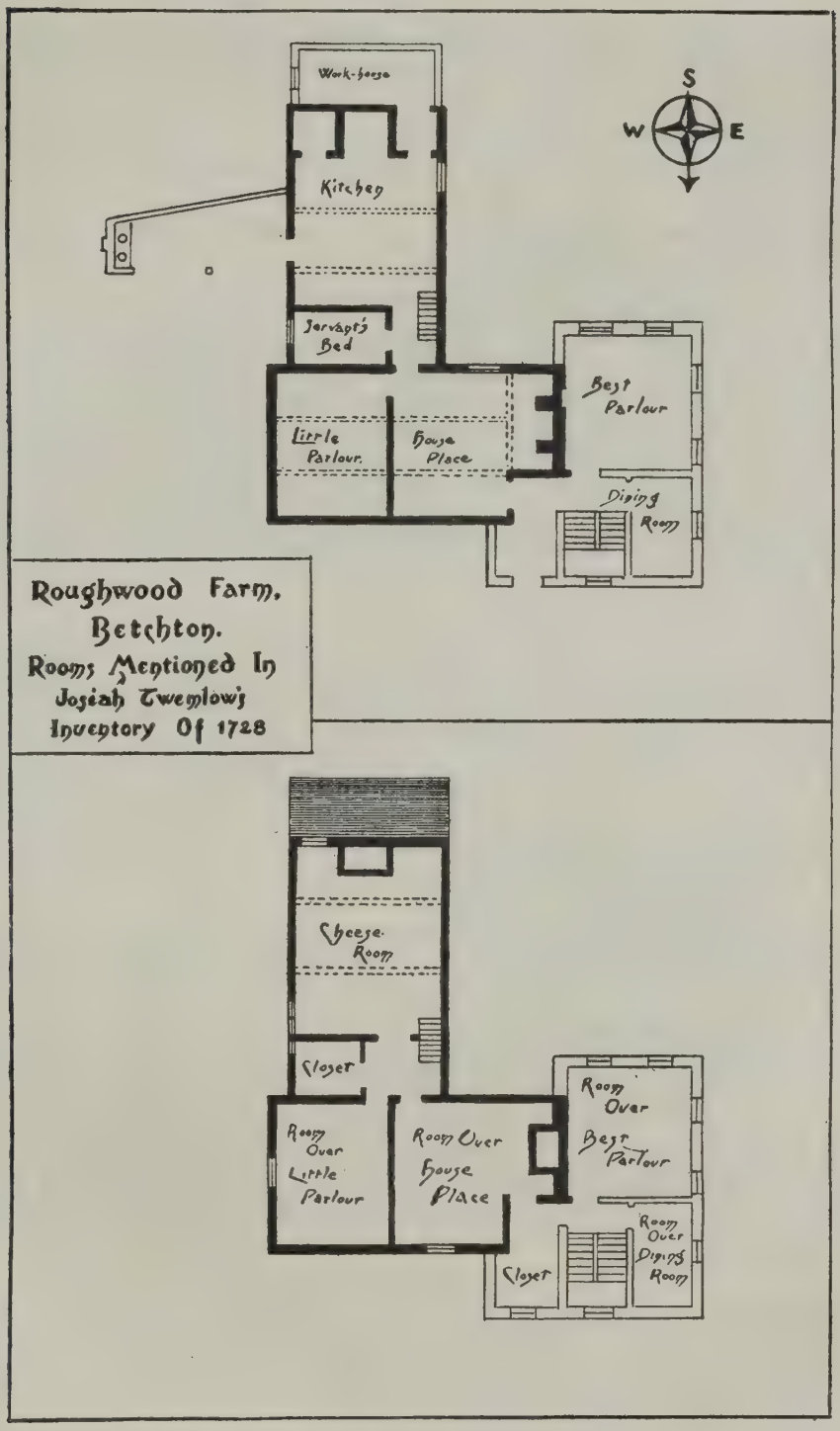
Twemlow, and that Josiah had sat in the seat of his forefathers. The matter was finally clinched by comparing the map with an entry made by Roger Wilbraham in 1650, viz: "John Twemlow holds by lease for his owne life and the lives of Mary his wife and Georg Twemlow his son a tenement there (excepting ye wichwood to be made in the furthermost field bank and ye poole field bank.") The situation of these plantations on the steep slope leading down to the brook and the mill pool, was quite clear on the map; and showed conclusively that "Roughwood Farm" and "Twemlow's tenement," were one and the same thing. Moreover this entry throws light upon the name "Roughwood," which is not found in the old documents. "Rough" is still commonly used to denote a hanging wood on the banks of a stream—such as the "Rough" at Tunstall, and "Shaw's Rough" at Doddington. And it would seem that in 1650 it was intended to plant a "Rough" on Twemlow's tenement at Betchton, to supply "wichwood," *i.e.*, faggots for the salt boilers; hence the modern names Roughwood Farm and Roughwood Mill.[1]

Unfortunately, while this reasoning was being followed out at Delamere, a gang of workmen at Roughwood was breaking down the old house with axes and hammers; and by the time that the identification was complete, the ruin was almost equally so. All that could be done was to buy the old timbers from the contractor, and send them by canal boat to Peatswood for re-erection there; and to learn as much as was possible about the old house by questioning those who had known it and by taking measurements upon the spot. Mr. C. T. Garfit, the agent of the property, was most kind in helping me, and giving me plans and measurements.

The site of the house is on the edge of the tableland, which slopes on the south side down to the second of the brooks already spoken of, the one which runs through Thurlwood and by Chell's hill. At this point the brook is dammed to form a pound for the upper and older of the two mills; and the steep side of the valley is planted and forms a pretty wood. On the north side of the house, at 150 yards' distance, runs the Trent and Mersey canal. To the south on the other side of the valley is the railway, and about a mile to the west are some very large chemical works. So that the natural beauty of the site is rather spoilt. The main road runs about half a mile to the north of it, and it is approached from Sandbach by a lane which leaves the main road at the New Inn.

The old half-timbered part which has been taken down was L shaped. One leg of the L contained the kitchen and a small parlour or pantry, which in Josiah's time was used as a servant's bedroom; and the other leg the house place and best parlour. At the end of the house-place was built in Queen Anne's reign the brick and tile addition which still remains. It consisted of an entrance hall, a very small dining-room, a capital parlour, and a nice oak staircase: above are two storeys of bedrooms, and below a cellar. The inventory to Josiah's will[2] gives us the different rooms and their contents. There were fifteen rooms in all, and the description of the principal ones is clear enough, though the situation of some of the small ones is a little difficult to make out. My impression is that the kitchen

1. The name "Roughwood" occurs in the Sandbach Register in 1723.
2. See Appendix C. iii.


Work-house
Kitchen
Servant's Bed
Little Parlour
House Place
Best Parlour
Dining Room
S
W
E
Roughwood Farm,
Betchton.
Rooms Mentioned In
Josiah Twemlow's
Inventory Of 1728
Cheese Room
Closet
Room Over Little Parlour
Room Over House Place
Room Over Best Parlour
Closet
Room Over Dining Room

wing was the oldest part of the house, and went back to the time of John Twemlow the elder; but parts of it had been renewed in brick and the arrangements altered, so that it is difficult to be sure of this. The other leg of the L which contained the house-place and parlour, was better built, and may possibly have been put up about the time when the new lease was taken out by the younger John in 1638.

The kitchen and house-place had huge chimney stacks, with wide ingle-nooks. The roof was steep and thatched.

With the assistance of Mr. Garfit I have been able to make a plan of the house as it was before the recent alterations began. Various changes had been made since Josiah's time. The original thatched roof had been replaced by a tiled one. The old parlour has been converted into a milk-house, and the little pantry into a press-house. In old times cheesemaking went on every day of the week, which now happily it does not. And in order that the dairymaid may have her Sunday rest, it is necessary to have a large and cool place in which the milk can be kept from Saturday to Monday. (See Hinchcliffe's Barthomley, p. 133.) Some lean-to-sheds had also been added; and the farm buildings, which used to be on the west of the house between it and the lane, had been pulled down and rebuilt on the north side towards the canal.

Apparently the old oak door and frame, which formed the entrance from the backyard to the kitchen in 1904 (and has been restored to the same position in the re-erected house at Peatswood), had originally been the front door of Josiah's brick addition. The frame had been longer, with a glass panel in it over the door to light the entrance hall. And the marks of the mitreing where the transom came can be seen in the frame. When the door and frame were moved to the kitchen a century or more later, the frame was shortened at the bottom, and the transom removed. This door has an iron plate on it with the date and initials upon it, which have been already referred to, viz: I. T. 1709.

The house at Betchton as renovated in 1904 and 1905, if less interesting, is much more comfortable than the old one was. About one hundred and fifty acres of land go with it, and the rent is £250.

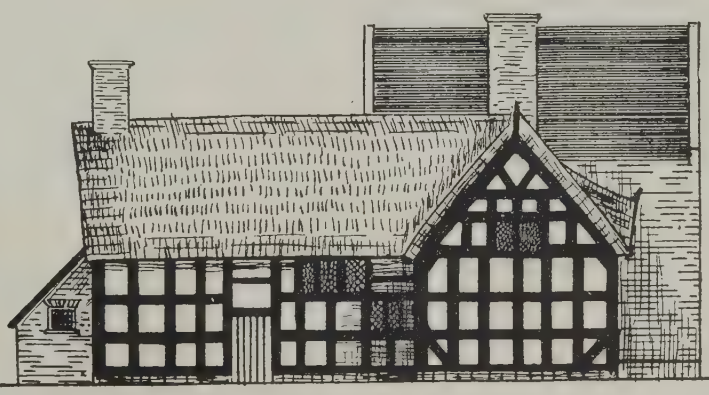
Before leaving Betchton a few words may be added as to other Betchton families with whom the Twemlows had intercourse in the 16th and 17th centuries.

1. First the Broomes. Margaret, daughter of John Twemlow the elder, married Hugh Broome at Sandbach, on 21st December 1602. Earwaker does not trace the pedigree of the Broomes of the Brook in Betchton from this marriage, but from Hugh Broome and Margaret Shawe, who were married 4th August 1600. And probably he is right, though the relationships of the Broomes seem to me decidedly obscure.

The only grandchild named Broome mentioned in John Twemlow's will of 1621 is his granddaughter Margaret. The younger John Twemlow by his will of 1659 gave a legacy to Randle, son of Thomas Broome, of Betchton, but he does not say whether he was a relation or not.

North Elevation.

Roaghwood Farm,
Betchton.



East Elevation.

Besides Hugh Broome the son of Thomas, baptised 26th March 1583, who is said by Earwaker to have been the ancestor of the Broomes of the Brook Farm at Betchton, there was another Hugh Broome, son of Geoffery, baptised at Sandbach, 3rd March 1585. Possibly he may be the man who married Margaret Twemlow, though in that case he was a very young bridegroom, unless he was christened very late.

At any rate there was a connection between the Broomes of the Brook and the Twemlows in the 18th century, as mentioned in Chapter III. and Earwaker's Sandbach, pp. 279 and 285.

To the information there given, I have only to add that Francis Twemlow's note-book says that Mary Hilditch (the heroine of the elopement to Gretna Green with Captain Francis Lowndes) was born 12th April 1755. It also contains a number of payments made for her shoes, clothing, &c., and a doctor's bill, shewing that she had smallpox in 1764.

George Twemlow of the Hill, by his will of 1808, left a sum of money in trust for her and her children, the last instalment of which was paid over by Thomas Twemlow of Peatswood to her trustees in 1818.

The Brook Farm was on the old road between Cappers Lane and Dean Hill, but the new road passes to the south of it, and on a higher level, so that few people see the old house. The house must have been a very handsome one, with a stone basement story, and half-timbered work above, the upper story projecting beyond the lower. Some of the old windows remain, and are full of interest as they have not been tampered with by restorers. The Betchton Manor Rolls show that it was the property of the Broomes as late as 1790.

2. The Merriells, Merryells, or Merrills. These people were the hereditary bailiffs of the Wilbraham portion of Betchton Manor. Ralph Merriell, who was overseer of the will of John Twemlow the elder, was the son of John Merriell, and was baptised in 1563. His tenement was at Hassall Green. The old house has been turned into cottages, and the land goes with a new house known as the "Fields Farm." It had belonged to a man named Hare in Henry IV's time.[1] Ralph Merriell took an active part in the legal proceedings of 1613, giving evidence on behalf of the plaintiff, and making a distraint on one of the defendants. Roger Wilbraham notes that on one occasion he allowed the widow Lawton to take wood to which she had no right.

His son, John Merriell, was baptized in 1592. His wife's name was Cicely, and she died in 1657. John lived to be 93, and died in 1685. Roger Wilbraham valued him highly as an honest and faithful agent. In 1708 Merriell's tenement was held by Richard Jackson.

3. The other overseer of John Twemlow's will was Richard Kettle. He seems to have acted on behalf of the occupiers of land who bought up the manorial rights of the Fittons, for the official transcript of part of the Fitton title, which is dated 1613, was issued by the Court on the request of Richard Kettle. In 1605 he married Joan Shawe, and in 1608 his son Richard was baptised. In 1629 he died, and his wife soon after.

1. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

The younger Richard Kettle's wife was named Elizabeth, and it seems to me very certain that this couple were the builders of the interesting old house known as the "Cross Farm," near Hassall Green. This house has $\frac{R.K.E.}{1639}$ carved over the porch, and is thus identified as the Kettle tenement. Elizabeth Kettle died in 1642. They had a son Randle baptized in 1636, and I think also a son Richard. Richard Kettle was a lord of Betchton in 1681 and he died in 1694. A Richard Kettle was a lord in 1708, and a Randle Kettle on the jury in 1731. Afterwards the farm belonged to the Podmores, as already stated in Chapter VI. It is now the property of Mr. Wakefield.

4. One of the witnesses of John Twemlow's will was RICHARD STEELE. Steele's tenement was on the road from Lawton Heath end to Day Green, just beyond the point where a lane branches off from it and goes down the hill to the higher Roughwood mill. There are two old timber houses still standing at the spot, but no longer inhabited.

5. The last CHELL of Chell's Hill died about 1676.[1] Roger Wilbraham records the fact, and the arrangements which he had made for the benefit of the widow. She did not however remain there long, but was succeeded by a man named Swaine. The Wilbraham widow's almshouses in Nantwich are endowed by a rent charge on this farm.

6. There is an old timber house at Dean Hill, with "Randle Rode 1684" carved upon it, which for some time belonged to the Levetts,[1] who succeeded the Byrds.

This Randle Rode is probably the man who was found, at the court held for the Betchton freeholders in 1681, to be the heir of William Rode; and therefore born and bred in Betchton. Lysons, however in his "Magna Britannia,"[2] says that after the sale of Rode Hall in 1669 the Rodes removed to Betchton and became extinct about 1740.

This is borne out by the M.S.S. at Delamere; for amongst the fines received by Roger Wilbraham previous to 1688, is one from Randle Rode £140. Again in 1725 I find that "Mr. Randle Rode holds a tenement for two lives value £36; and in 1730 it is noted that Randle Rode died and his lease expired, and that the farm was re-let for £30 a year. The Randle Rode who sold Rode[3] was sixty-seven years old at the time; and may very well have taken a lease from his "cousin" Roger, and paid the fine of £140 out of the proceeds of the sale of Rode. The second Randle who died in 1730 may have been his son, or more probably his grandson. It is clear at any rate that there were two sets of Rodes in Betchton in the latter half of the 17th century; those of Dean Hill, and those of the Wilbraham estate. I am not certain which farm on the Wilbraham estate the Rodes had. It was the one which had previously been "Newton's."[4] In 1708 it was held by William Rode.

1. The Levett family of Milford, near Stafford.
2. Vol. II., part 2, p. 389.
3. Ormerod, Vol. III., 53.
4. Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

7. The Harderns, were in 1904 still at Betchton Farm, the largest on Mr. Wilbraham's Betchton estate: and perhaps were descended from Roger Hardern who was the third largest contributor on the Betchton Subsidy Roll of 1545. They have not however been on the farm continuously, as it was held by the Lawtons during most of the 17th century, and afterwards by a man named Skerratt. But they seem to have been there in 1745. And the old timber house with its thatched roof, and the pewter plates and dishes, so recently as 1904, remained as relics of the 17th century; but they are now gone.

8. [1]Stanway's tenement, where Randle Stanway lived in 1611, was next door to Merriell's on the way from Hassall Green to Malkins Bank. But I do not think that this could have been "Stanwaie House," which is mentioned in the Sandbach registers several times, and also in the Betchton Court Roll of 1681, which also refers to Stanway House Bridge. Stanwaie House must have been somewhere on the lane which leads from the main road to Malkins Bank, skirting the vicarage garden; and which is still known as "Stanners House Lane."

9. The Jacksons of Thurlwood were a very old Betchton family. I do not know whether the Jacksons who owned Betchton House in the 18th century, and several of whom were in orders, were descended from them. Very possibly it may be so; for in a paper at Delamere of the date of 1681 there is mention made of a Rev. Richard Jackson, son of John Jackson of Thurlwood. Richard Jackson is mentioned in the Inq. p.m. of John Davenport 1557. John Jackson is mentioned in John Twemlow's will of 1621 as being his godson.

10. The Shawes of Betchton are legion. Five of them were defendants in the lawsuit of 1612. William Shawe kept the "Noon Sun" public house in 1708. I do not know where this was, unless it was the house (still standing), where the old road from Capper's Lane to Dean Hill *via* the Brook Farm crossed the lane leading from Hassall Green to Betchton house. When the road was altered, this house was superseded by the present "New Inn."

1. Stanway's lease of 1646 will be found in Appendix D. ii.

2. ARCLYD.

My information about the Brook House at Arclyd, now no longer in existence, is extremely meagre. The site of it was pointed out to me by my father long ago ; and a labourer has since told me that he had turned up bricks there when ploughing.

The house stood about a quarter of a mile from the present Sandbach and Congleton Union Workhouse, on the north-west side of the road leading from it to Sandbach, near the brook from which it took its name, and close to the point where the road comes out of a cutting with wooded banks.

The farm was in 1874 not much more than 120 acres, but some land was very probably sold off before that time, and the house must have been very similar in its main features to the one at Betchton, before the latter was added to in Queen Anne's reign. All that I have learnt about it is gathered from the inventory of George Twemlow's will dated 28th December 1704. This mentioned the "dwelling-house" (or house-place), the parlour, the dining-place, pantry, cellar, and kitchen, and various chambers above, the stairs apparently going up from the house-place. When it was built there is no evidence to show.

Ormerod says (Vol. III. 177), that the estate of the Twemlow's in Arclyd was originally purchased by William Lingard, 9 Jac. I.[1] This may be true, though it seems certain that the Lingards were settled in Arclyd long before that time (See Chap. VII.). For it is not unlikely that they were in the first instance leaseholders only, and that William Lingard in 1611 bought the freehold just as so many of his neighbours in Betchton and Sandbach were doing at the same time. (See Earwaker's Sandbach p. 8).

In the round room at the Public Record Office there is a set of manuscript volumes known as the Cheshire "Docket Books," in which a record of fines and recoveries was kept.

Looking through these in March 1908, I found that in the month of April in the tenth year of James 1st, William Lyngard was demandant and John Brayne and Margery Brayne his wife, and John Brayne junior were deforciants of lands in "Artlyde." The 10th year of King James began 24th March 1613, so that this entry agrees perfectly with Ormerod's statement, and shows that the fine which secured the estate to the purchaser was levied with all convenient despatch.

The Braynes were an old Cheshire family, and belonged to Aston-in-Mondrem, near Nantwich. Ormerod III. 364.

There are three deeds in the British Museum (additional charters 37,299 to 37,301), dated between 1612 and 1616, to which he was a party. By one of these he conveys certain corn tithes in Arclyd to John Baddeley, yeoman of the same place. By the other two he and John Baddeley conveyed certain other tithes in Arclyde to Margerie Leake, and these deeds show, at any rate, that William Lingard was busy in the Arclyd property market at this particular time.

1. King James' reign began 24th March 1603.

Ormerod says that from the time of the marriage of George Twemlow and Mary Lingard down to the time when he wrote, the Arclyd estate had been in settlement.

At some time in the 18th century the ancient half-timbered house was burnt down, and a new farmhouse was built on a different site, which has been since occupied by tenants.

This house stands at the point where the road from Sandbach to Congleton crosses the old London and Liverpool coach road, in the south-east angle formed by the intersection of the two roads.

I visited it in March 1905, and as it was then vacant, I was able to inspect it thoroughly.

It is a plain brick house three storeys high, consisting of two parlours facing the coach road, with an entrance hall and staircase between them, and a tail consisting of kitchen and pantries at the back. In general arrangement it resembles the house on the upper Castle Farm at Tyrley, which was finished about the year 1777. The brickwork is rather rough and coarse, and the roof of low pitch and slated. The old windows and mantelpieces have been replaced by modern ones, and there is little to give a clue to the date of the house. The only peculiar feature is the staircase window at the back, which is very long and narrow, extending over nearly the whole height of the house, and divided by several transoms. I know of two like it, one at Cannon House, Hanley, described in Part III. of this Chapter ; the other at Weston Hall near Standon, described in Part V. And both of these windows may be safely ascribed to my great grandfather Thomas Twemlow and his brother George, and dated between 1765 and 1780.

The parlour doors have some character about them, their panels are raised, but the mouldings are small and have fillets, and belong to the time between 1775 and 1780.

The farm buildings are on a liberal scale, in one long range, with the stable nearest the house, barn at the furthest end, and cowhouse in between them. Some of the loft beams are of oak, with old mortice holes in them, and it is evident that they came from the more ancient house or buildings. One of the attics also had some lead lattice glazing with diamond panes about two inches square, which must also have come from the earlier house. This I was able to obtain, and it is now in the larder of the bailiff's house at Peatswood, the only relic of Arclyd that I possess.

The last George Twemlow of Arclyd, who died in 1778, made a will (see Appendix C. v.) by which he devised "All that my messuage farm or tenement situate lying and being in Artclid in the said County of Chester and in the tenure or occupation of the said Thomas Pickering as tenant to or under me with the lands grounds tythes hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging (formerly purchased by me from the Rt. Honble. the Earl of Cholmondeley and his son or one of them or his or their trustee or trustees) unto my said grandson Thomas Twemlow of Leverpoole his heirs and assigns for ever." This is

somewhat ambiguous, and leaves one in doubt whether the property referred to was the whole of George's possessions in Arclyd including the land which came to his grandfather and namesake in 1654 through his marriage with Mary Lingard; or whether on the other hand the passage in the will only refers to the land purchased by George himself from Lord Cholmondeley, the old land being in settlement, and therefore outside the scope of the will.

In the list of Arclyd freeholders of 1671 (Harl. M.S.S. 2,010) the name of Robert Lord Cholmondeley occurs, next to that of George Twemlow. It seems likely therefore that the properties adjoined. The Cholmondeleys seem to have been selling outlying property in this part of Cheshire about the middle of the 18th century. Galley's tenement in Alsager was sold by them to "Counsellor" Wilbraham in 1746.

In the absence of further information we are left in doubt as to whether the present house and buildings were put up by old George, with the help of his sons, before 1778; or whether they were erected by his successor. And further, we are unable to say whether his successor was his son John of Macclesfield, or his grandson Thomas of Liverpool.

William Hamilton Twemlow, the son of this Thomas sold his Arclyd land in 1874 (see Chapter VI). It was cut up into lots, and only about 40 acres are held with the house and buildings at the present time.

My father considered whether he should buy the land and keep it in the family; but wisely decided not to do so. There is nothing interesting or attractive about the place, and it is dominated and overshadowed by the big ugly workhouse buildings which adjoin it.

Note on Arclyd Families.

In 1671 there were six freeholders in Arclyd, viz: "Roger Berrington, William Turner, George Twemlow, Robert Lord Cholmondeley, Thomas Mainwaring of Calveley, gent., and John Furnivall of Betchton, late George Mainwaring of Arclyd gentlemen." Harl. M.S.S. 2010.

As to these, R. Berrington may have been a cadet of the Bradwall family, and he may have been related to Ellen Berrington who married William Lingard in 1611. He was not a resident in Arclyd.

William Turner may have been descended from Katherine Turner, sister of William Lingard Rector of Warmincham. He may have been one of the family of that name who lived at the Lyn-house.

George Twemlow owned the "Brook," in right of Mary his wife.

Lord Cholmondeley's property in Arclyd seems to have been bought by the second George Twemlow of Arclyd probably about 1740. (See George Twemlow's will.)

Thomas Mainwaring of Calveley owned "Leake's tenement," and sold it 28th December 1695, to Thomas Moore. Additional charters, British Museum, Nos. 37308 and 37309. The second deed is witnessed by John Twemlow, son of the first George Twemlow of Arclyd.

George Mainwaring's estate was sold 4th April 1674, by Edward Mainwaring of Wrexham, to John Furnival for £1040. Additional charters, 37302.

With regard to the occupiers—in 1612 Margerie Leake, a widow, was a resident there, no doubt at Leake's tenement. We know that the Lingards were there, also a man named John Baddeley, and others named Corker and Goodhynd. In 1664 the hearth tax returns give only 17 chimneys for the whole township of Arclyd. Besides George Twemlow and his mother-in-law Mary Lingard, I find John Leake (no doubt at Leake's tenement) John Smallwood (no doubt at Arclyd Hall, as he had four chimneys), John Stretch[1] (as to whom I know nothing), and William Twemlow. This last man I suppose lived at Arclyd Green, about a quarter of a mile from the "Brook," and near Arclyd Hall. There were Twemlows of Arclyd Green for a hundred years or so from 1660 onwards; and it requires some little care to keep them separated from the family at the "Brook." This William died in 1692, and John Twemlow, perhaps his son, was buried 25th May 1703; another John, perhaps a grandson of William, was married 30th December 1713 to Jane Broome of Betchton, at Holmes Chapel. He died in 1761.[2]

When George Twemlow left Arclyd and went to Shelton, he would naturally take with him some of his most cherished possessions. Amongst these were, as I suppose, three very fine old chests. And these seem to have been handed over to his sons Thomas and George and by them removed to the Hill in 1788. When my father went to live at the Hill in 1863, he found them put away in a lumber room; and had them repaired and brought downstairs. They are at present the property of Mrs. Kennedy, of Brookside near Sandbach. One of these chests has I.T. cut upon it; and I take it to be the fine linen chest mentioned in the will of John Twemlow of Betchton, dated 1659. Another one which is richly carved, probably belonged to William Lingard rector of Warmincham, and was by his will, dated 1620, bequeathed to William Lingard the younger of Arclyd, and described as "the pillowchest in my chamber."

"Chests" are mentioned in the administration papers of William Lingard of Arclyd, dated 1647. Also in George Twemlow's inventory of 1704 three chests occur, two in the parlour, and one in the little chamber.

1. Katherine Lingard, daughter of John, married Joseph Stretch, 19th April 1592. Hannah Twemlow, daughter of John Twemlow, of Arclyd, married Thomas Stretch some time after 1724, and had a son Samuel living 1759. See Chap. III.
2. See Earwaker's Sandbach, 41 and 180.

3. SHELTON.

The house, which was built by George and Thomas Twemlow at Shelton is still to be seen. It is known by the name of "Cannon House," and stands back from Cannon Street, in its own grounds.

[1]Ford's China Works, which were built in 1865, adjoin it on the south side, and occupy the site of the older works.

Cannon House has for more than sixty years belonged to a family named Moxon, and Mrs. Moxon, the present owner, kindly allowed me to see it, and gave me much information about it. Beyond having had new windows and doors the house has been but little changed externally since it was first built. It is of red brick, with stone dressings; the drawing-room and dining-room face the front, with a west aspect, and behind the drawing room come the study and kitchen offices. The front doorway is of stone, with a Doric frieze and compass pediment, and the house has a handsome stone cornice with modillions, and lead spout-heads with foliage.

Inside there is a good staircase, and the bedrooms retain their old chimney-pieces and plaster cornices. In the downstair rooms these have been renewed, and a tile floor has been substituted for the original stone one in the entrance hall. But the old oak floors remain in excellent condition, both upstairs and down, and also a good deal of the inside carpentry. The staircase has a modillion cornice of plaster, and from the character of the mouldings I should guess the house to be not later than 1770. Mrs. Moxon told me that it was built in Thomas Twemlow's bachelor days, and he married first in 1770. The staircase window goes from the top of the house to the bottom, like those at the present Brook House, Arclyd, and at Weston Hall, near Standon. The one at Cannon House has a pointed arch, which the other two have not. It has been fitted with stained glass in modern times.

Altogether the arrangement of the house is very much like that of the Hill before it was altered in 1873, and it probably had more land with it originally than it has at present.

I suspect that some of the mahogany furniture, which was afterwards at the Hill, was originally here.

The site of the house and works was purchased by George and Thomas Twemlow, 9th January 1760.[2] It is copyhold land of the manor of Newcastle-under-Lyme, which belongs to the Duchy of Lancaster. Part was occupied by works, which had formerly belonged to Warner Edwards. Simeon Shaw in his History of the Potteries, says that this Edwards had considerable chemical knowledge, and was the great authority of his time on potters' colours.[3] He died about 1753. George and Thomas Twemlow were already in possession of these works in January 1760; but I do not know how long they had been there. Probably not very long, for at that time George was only twenty-three years old, and Thomas twenty-one.

1. Staffs. "Sentinel," 28th Feb. 1880.
2. Abstract furnished by Mrs. Moxon.
3. Shaw's "History of the Potteries," Edn. of 1900, 167.

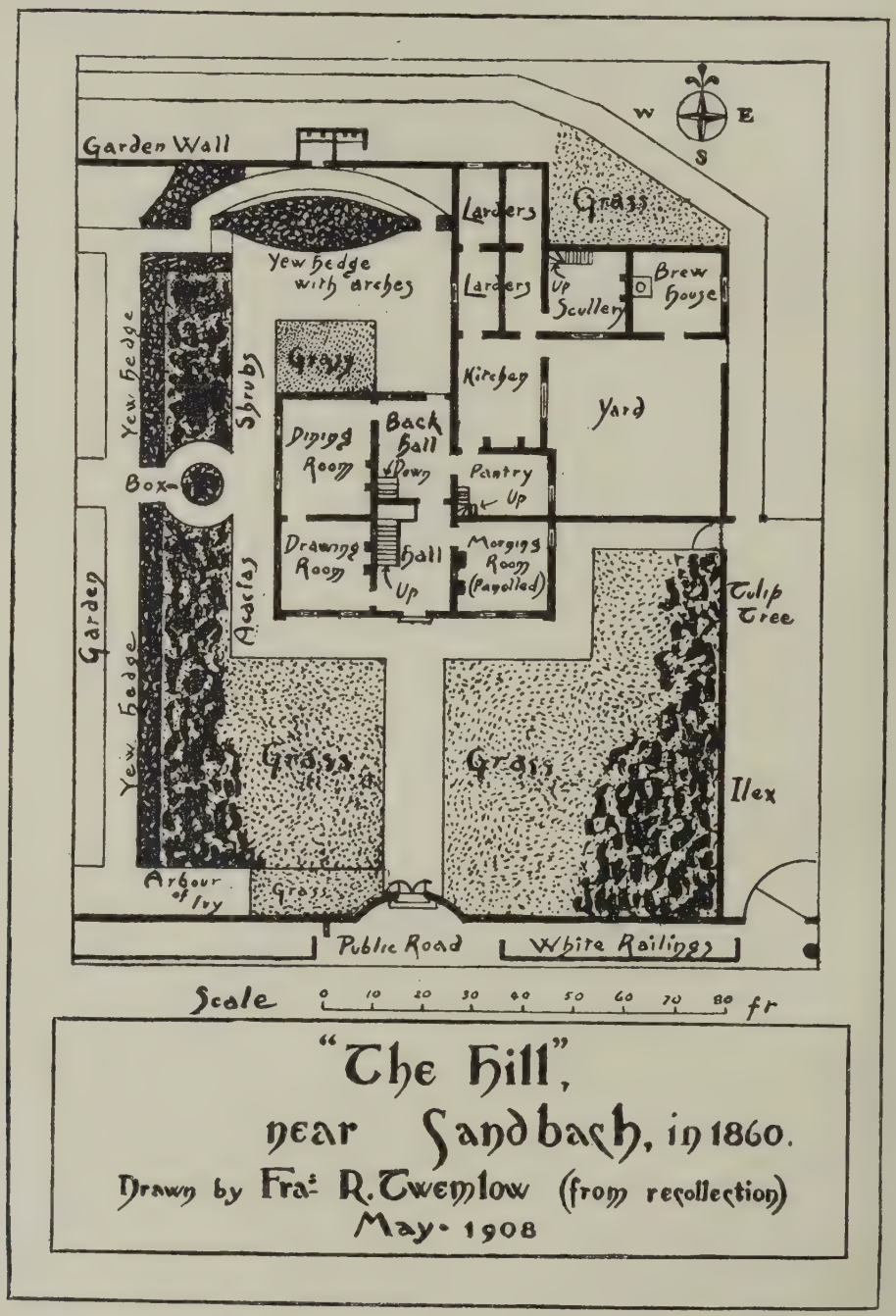
The land was surrendered to them by John Middleton, clerk, and Joseph Knight, gentleman.[1] This John Middleton[2] was the first clergyman of Hanley Church, and had been Warner Edwards "secret partner." The part not covered by the works is described as the meadow, called "the Lower Handley Hill" or "Workhouse Croft," then in the holding of Sympson Chatterley.

George and Thomas bought the Hill, near Sandbach, in 1788, and went to live there soon afterwards. But they did not sell their Shelton property till 1800, when Samuel Grey Simpson bought it from them. It would seem that in the interval their nephew John (son of John Twemlow of Macclesfield) lived at Shelton, and carried on the business. In a deed of 1793[3] he is described as of Shelton, potter; and he was "mock-mayor" of Hanley, in 1795. (See Chapter VI.) After 1800 he found other employment.

In the map of the Potteries attached to the directory published by J. Albert and Son in 1802, these works appear to be those which are numbered 90, and stated to be in the occupation of Simpson and Wright. In 1829 when Simeon Shaw wrote his book, they were being carried on by Messrs. J. and W. Ridgeway.

1. Abstract furnished by Mrs. Moxon.
2. For anecdotes of Mr. Middleton, see Ward's "History of Stoke-on-Trent."
3. Schedule of Deeds attached to an agreement between George Twemlow and his nephew Thomas Twemlow, dated 1804, at Peatswood.

"Cannon House."



"The Hill",
near Sandbach, in 1860.
Drawn by Fra: R. Twemlow (from recollection)
May· 1908

4. THE HILL NEAR SANDBACH.

I have already in Chapter IV. given some account of this place as I remember it before 1860. At that time anyone looking at it from the south would have seen an old-fashioned red brick house, with pilasters and inside chimneys, and with its green slate roof enclosed in parapet walls and stone-coped gables, the water being carried off by large lead down spouts, one bearing on its head the initials T.G., and the date 1733. The house stood back from the high road, with a grass forecourt in front, flanked by acacias and ilexes. This forecourt was fenced from the road by open palisading, and approached by a flight of steps, from which a broad gravel path led to the front door. On the west side of the house was the old-fashioned garden, with high brick walls and yew hedges; on the north was a rookery; and on the east were the orchard, with old pear, apple, and walnut trees, the dovecote and the stables.

Along the whole frontage of the garden and forecourt the footpath of the high road was enclosed by low railings painted white, to mark it out as private property, and which were terminated on the east by a huge granite boulder.

The aforesaid high road was the same one, leading from Sandbach to Rode Heath and the Potteries, which has already been referred to as cutting Betchton into halves. Sandbach is about half-a-mile distant from the Hill, on the west; and the little brook which bounds Betchton on the west, forms the eastern boundary of the land that goes with the Hill.

Fifty years ago the house was entered through a front door with heavy bolts and chains; the entrance hall was floored with white stone, and from it started a handsome oak staircase which went up to the topmost floor. On either side of the entrance hall were two sunny rooms, facing south, that on the east being panelled with wood painted white.

Many of the internal fittings of the house, such as the oak doors with raised panels, dated from George the Second's reign. Others again, such as the white painted mantelpieces with vases and festoons and medallions, dated from 1788-9. At that date considerable additions were made to the house, and a note on the Court Roll of the lords of Betchton informs us that royalty was paid on 98,000 bricks. There were three fine old oak chests, and some good mahogany furniture, including a sideboard and a bureau now at Peatswood. There was also on the staircase a grotesque picture of a man grinning and showing a full set of teeth, and armed with a pair of blacksmith's pincers, tugging at the last remaining grinder of an old man whose features are contorted with agony. This picture of course appealed strongly to the youthful imagination.

The offices for the most part dated from 1788, though a washhouse and laundry had been added at some later time. The south front of the house was covered with pyracantha and pyrus japonica, the remainder for the most part with ivy. The outhouses were hidden out by old yews; and a yew hedge very thick and flat on the top,[1] shut out the kitchen garden from the house and forecourt. The greenhouses had old camelia trees, an oleander, and a wistaria growing partly indoors and partly outside, so that it flowered twice in a year.

1. My grandfather, aged 5 in 1788, could remember walking on the top of it.

Of the recent alterations much need not be said. The white railings were removed because they attracted lovers and loafers who used them as seats. The district council took away the granite boulder as being an obstruction. The open palisades have been replaced by a solid wall, and the old forecourt by a gravel drive. The offices have been pulled down and rebuilt on a large scale; and what remains of the old house has been modernised. The dovecote is gone, and also the yew hedges; and the garden has given place to lawns and shrubberies. The house is more commodious, and its surroundings perhaps more convenient than formerly; but the place no longer recalls the times of the second and third Georges.

Earwaker, in his History of Sandbach, gives what purports to be an account of it; and says that it was formerly called "Lightley Hill," that it belonged to the Walleys in the 17th century, afterwards to a family named Parrott, and then to the Cartwrights who sold it to George and Thomas Twemlow.

The last statement is confirmed by the title deeds, but none of the others are. These papers show that in the 17th century the property belonged to a family named Hartley, who sold it in 1708 to James Baddeley, whose widow sold it to Thomas Grainger 27th November 1732. This man lost no time in building a new house, as is testified by the initials T.G. and the date 1733, which were referred to at the beginning of this chapter.

Thomas Grainger died in January 1782, and on 25th March 1783 Ann Grainger spinster, having barred the entail, conveyed the place to John Cartwright. Cartwright mortgaged it in 1784 to Joseph Skerratt; and sold it in 1788 to George and Thomas Twemlow.

Some additional land was bought from Lord Crewe before 1807, and some further small purchases have been made since.

Lightly Hill is marked on the ordnance map, close to Wheelock; and it is clear that Earwaker was mistaken in identifying it with the house bought by George and Thomas Twemlow in 1788.

The Hill, Sanbach, from an old sketch

5. PEATSWOOD.

S.1.—*The Land.* S.2.—*The House.* S.3.—*The Black and White Farmhouse.* S.4.—*Outlying Portions of the Property.*

1. THE LAND. PEATSWOOD, though in the Shropshire parish of Market Drayton, is in Staffordshire in the manor of Tyrley.

A good deal might be written about this lordship, and elsewhere I have endeavoured to give some account of it, and of the battle of Blore Heath, which was fought within its limits. One third of the manorial rights is at present held with the Peatswood property.

The place takes its name from a yeoman family,[1] which was settled in Almington in the reign of Henry VIII., and probably much earlier, and which seems to have died out in the reign of George II.

[2]In 1524, it was no longer in the occupation of the Peats, but of the Prestons, a family which came from Hodnet. In the Prestons' leases it is described as "Skelhourne Spring," or "Payt's Hill," and they seem to have cleared it all but a part called "John Preston's Hill," which they covenanted to preserve as a coppice. (This I take to have been the twenty-three acre field marked on the map of 1669 mentioned below, the upper portion of the large pasture field to the north of Peatswood, called the Lawn, through which the drives pass). The Peats, however, held the adjoining land. In 1524[3] Richard Payt appears as holding a small meadow near by; in 1556[4] Robert Payte was ordered to make up the fence between him and "Kelhorne" Spring, and in 1592 Thomas Peat[5] had a lease of Baiclis Spring, which no doubt was the same as Bayley's or Bailiff's Wood, land which adjoins Peatswood on the south side. Roger Peate held land in Almington in 1623,[6] and Thomas Peate in 1658. And in 1742[6] I find the name of Laurence Peat, who seems to have been the last of them. And it is curious that, as in the 16th century the Prestons had ousted the Peats from Peatswood, so in the 18th century a Preston took over Peat's tenement in Almington.

But to return to Skelhorn Spring—the Preston's farmed it from Almington Hall in the 16th century, and when in 1587 the three lords of the manor made a partition of the lands, Almington Hall and Peatswood formed part of the share of James Skrymsher, of Norbury Manor.[7] His descendant, Sir Charles Skrymsher knight, owned them at the beginning of Queen Anne's reign, and from him they passed to his stepson, Edward Sneyd.

This gentleman was born in 1693. He had an elder brother Ralph, who succeeded his grandfather in the Keele and Bradwell estates, and a sister (Honora), who became the second wife of Sir Eusebins Buswell, of Clipstone, Northants (his first wife having been Hester, daughter of Sir Charles

1. Peat—pet, darling, so used by Shakespeare in "Taming of the Shrew."
2. Sir W. Gascoigne's lease to Preston, at Tunstall.
3. Preston's Lease.
4. Court Roll at Peatswood.
5. Lease at Peatswood.
6. Tunstall Rent Rolls.
7. Writ of Partition at Tunstall.

Skrymsher). His father (who was born in 1669) died young, and in 1699 his mother (Frances, daughter of Sir William Noel of Kirkby Mallory) married Sir Charles Skrymsher. After Sir Charles' death in 1709 she took a third husband, Sir John Chester, of Chichley, Bucks, and surviving him, she took as a fourth Charles Adderley, of Hams. Her picture is at Catton, and has the names of her four spouses written on the back.

[1]In 1705 a family arrangement took place under which certain sums of money to which his step-children were entitled were handed over to Sir Charles Skrymsher, and in return he made a settlement of Almington Hall, and various lands in Almington and Hales (including Peatswood), which for many years had been held with it, for the benefit of the infants. This property was to be held by Trustees:—

1. For ten years (till Edward Sneyd's majority), for Sir Charles Skrymsher.
2. Then for Edward Sneyd and his issue.
3. Then for Honora Sneyd and her issue.
4. Lastly, for Ralph (the elder brother) and his issue.

This settlement was confirmed in 1726 by Thomas Boothby Skrymsher, grandson and heir at law of Sir Charles.

Edward Sneyd was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford,[2] and was called to the Bar at the Inner Temple in 1712. He built the present Almington Hall,[3] and resided there for a time, but in 1768 he surrendered it to his niece, Frances Horton, who let it in 1769 to a gentleman named George Parker, of the Inner Temple, who seems to have lived there till 1783; and a note by my great uncle, Thomas Twemlow, says that Edward Sneyd was a great deal in Italy. When in England he made his home with his nephew at Keele, after 1768. He never married, and died in 1780, aged 87.

Honora Lady Buswell, his sister, died in 1716, leaving an only daughter, Frances, who married Christopher Horton, of Catton, near Burton-on-Trent, and succeeded to her uncle's property. This lady had ten children, and when she died in 1785 Almington and Peatswood went to her son Eusebins, the Squire of Catton, who sold them in December 1787, after a protracted negotiation[4] to Thomas Dicken, a Market Drayton banker.

I now propose to trace the gradual expansion, first of the estate, and secondly of the house.

1. A map of 1669 at Catton, showing the various isolated parcels of ground, then known as "Almington Farm," informs us that at that time Peats Wood consisted of a solid block of land nearly oblong in shape, containing eighty acres, divided into two portions, one of 23 acres and the other of 57. On the north side it was bounded by "Blackborne's Grounds," on the east by "Glover's (?) Hills," on the south by "Bailey Wood," and on the west by "the

1. Settlement of 1705, at Peatswood.
2. Foster's Alumni, Oxon.
3. No authority for this except the style of the house. It could not however have been otherwise; and he must have made the pool also.
4. Papers at Catton.

Lady Chester, mother of Edward Sneyd.

From her picture at Catton.

lord's (marrets ?)." This western abuttal is a puzzle; we should expect it to be Clerk's Pool and the Bog Meadow, the latter belonging to Lord Gerard, and occupied by Noah Walton. The word comes on a crease in the parchment, and is very faint. There is an archaic word, "marrey's,"[1] meaning "marsh," and I can only guess that the words here written signify "Lord Gerard's morasses or bogs," or possibly "the bogs part of the waste of the lords of the manor." This would rather lead one to suppose that the old "Clerk's Pool" (which we know from documents to have been in existence in Henry VIII. reign, and the position of which is fixed by the field names)[2] had by this time either burst its dam or become silted up.

This also agrees with the 1740 map of Tyrley Castle Farm, which shows the brook course all the way from Stoneyford to the Colebrook, and with a deed of 1780, which speaks of the big and little bogs as "heretofore parcel of Tyrley Castle Farm, but now covered with water, and in the possession of Lady Markham."

In 1685 Sir Charles Skrymsher leased to Thomas Borrowes,[3] of Hales, certain parts of Almington Farm, including "all those Fower closes pieces or parcells of land called "ye Peates Wood adjoining to a certaine wood on ye [4]East called "Bailey's Wood." And all that meadow adjoining to ye Peatswood." From this it appears that the twenty-three acre field of 1669 (which is represented by the upper part of the pasture on the north of the house through which the approach drives run), was in grass and classed as meadow, and that the fifty-seven acre field had been cut into quarters, the names of which still survived in 1808,[5] viz., on north-west, the "Barn Field; on north-east, the "Waggon House Field"; on the south-west, the "Far Field"; and the south-east the "Clover Field."

[6]Borrowes' lease was for the lives of his three daughters, Mary, Margaret and Elizabeth. Mary married Thomas Bannister, Margaret Thomas Growcock of Hales, and Elizabeth was dead in 1707. On the death of Thomas Borrowes, it would seem that his daughters shared his leasehold lands between them, and that Mary and her husband built a cottage at Peatswood and came to live there. The Sneyd family settlement of March 1705 mentions "The Messuage cottage or tenement in Almington wherein Thomas Bannister doth now inhabit commonly called 'Peats Wood'." The land is then described as "The Six Peatswoods," showing that one of the five fields of 1685 had been subdivided. Two Bannisters, Thomas and Richard were tenants of Sir Charles Skrymsher in 1685, and this Thomas was probably the son of one of them.[6]

[7]In 1726 Edward Sneyd let the place to a family named Besford on a lease for lives, and added to it some thirty-one acres of stronger land lying on the east of the road leading from Old Springs to Almington Bridge. This land was

1. Century Dictionary.
2. Clerk's pool meadow is mentioned in the accounts of the Bailiff of Tyrley for the year 1541. (Papers at Tunstall.)
3. Borrowes, or Burrowes, held the land adjoining to "Burrows' Rough," which no doubt is named after him.
4. Peatswood is North, not West, of Bayley's Wood.
5. Map of 1808.
6. Old Leases at Catton.
7. Deeds at Catton, and letter from E. Sneyd,-Do.

known as the Bryers Birches, Holiday Leasowes, and Crookford, and is now mostly held with the Hills Farm. After the death of the elder Besford, the remainder of this lease was purchased by Sir John James Markham Baronet, a retired officer; and on 29th September 1752 he took a new lease[1] from Edward Sneyd for his own life, and those of his sister Mary D'Ambourgez and his niece Frances D'Ambourgez. In 1755 Sir James married Sarah daughter of Richard Clive of Styche, and sister of the great Robert Clive, then famous as the defender of Arcot, and shortly afterwards as the victor of Plassey. In 1766 Markham's lease was varied by the substitution of his wife's name for his niece's and by the inclusion of a piece of land known as the Cawdrey[2] Hayes or Cawey Hays, about seven or eight acres in area. It lies on the north side of the Colebrook, on the slope above the old paper mill. This addition brought Markham's land up to about 120 acres.

One word more to explain Markham's position. He was born in 1698,[3] and succeeded to the baronetcy in 1736. His predecessor, Sir George Markham of Sedgebroke near Grantham, the third baronet, was a distant cousin, who left all his property to Rev. Bernard Wilson.[4] I do not know what fortune Sir James had of his own; he must have had something; and he had expectations from another quarter under somewhat peculiar circumstances.

He was the heir-at-law of an eccentric man named Thomas Whorwood of Denton in South Staffordshire, a retired naval officer, who died in March 1746. Captain Whorwood left his property to his cousin Mrs. Scott for her life, and afterwards to Oxford University. Litigation ensued, and the will was set aside as contravening the Mortmain Act of 1736. So that subject to Mrs. Scott's life interest, Sir James became entitled to the Denton property.[5] He did not however live to enjoy it, as he died in October 1778[6] before Mrs. Scott. Lady Markham was twenty-five when she married, thirty-two years younger than her husband; and they had no children. Lady Markham lived to a great age, but did not end her days at Peatswood. She bought the Grove[7] near Market Drayton, probably with the proceeds of the sale of Denton,[8] and died there. She was buried at Moreton Saye, 31st January 1828, aged 96.[9]

It will thus be understood that Sir James and Lady Markham were people of independent property, but with no family place of their own, and no children to provide for.

I shall return to the Markhams when describing the house; but it is now time to go back to the owners of the soil.

1. Deed at Catton.
2. Possibly this word is a corruption of "Causeway." "Hayes" means enclosure. This land on the north is separated from Broomhill Grange by an old lane, which led down to the mill dam; and on the south is bounded by a road or causeway which skirted the old mill pool.
3. Complete Baronetage, 1902.
4. Kimber and Johnson's Baronetage of England, 1771, Vol. I., 470.
5. Shaw's Staffordshire, Vol. III., 266.
6. bur., Moreton Saye, 15th October 1778.
7. Advt. of the Grove for sale, 1830.
8. Lady Markham probably bought the Grove after the death of Col. D'Avenant, who was buried at Market Drayton, 27th April 1798. Denton was sold to Samuel Egerton Brydges, Esq., in 1798.
9. Moreton Saye Register.

Sir John James Markham, Bart., 1698—1778.

Thomas Dicken who bought Peatswood and Almington Hall from Eusebins Horton in 1787, was already a landowner in Tyrley, having made purchases from Skrymsher Boothby in 1776, and from the heirs-at-law of Edward Church of Tunstall,[1] amongst whom after the death of that gentleman in 1780, his property was divided. But these transactions do not affect us; with the exception of his acquiring Skrymsher Boothby's third of the manorial rights, which still go with the Peatswood Estate.

He did however two things which added greatly to the residential value of Peatswood, and gave the place its present character. The first was the purchase in April 1791 from Hugo Meynell of the Tyrley Castle land, and the old paper mill on the Colebrook.

And the second was an exchange which he effected 25th March 1798 with Hester Yonge the owner of the Hills Farm; by which he gave up the Briers Birches and other outlying land on the east of the road leading from Old Springs to Almington Bridge, and gained the Clerk's pool meadow, Higgins Hill, and other land between Peatswood and the Colebrook formerly known as Blackborne's ground. All the land to the west of the pool valley, from the Colebrook to the Hollins' boundary, including the greater portion of the land covered by the water, belonged to Tyrley Castle. And the land acquired under the exchange, though less extensive, was by reason of its situation of scarcely less importance.

Without the elbow room gained by these two transactions the house and grounds could never have expanded as they have done.

The earlier history of Tyrley Castle will be found in the books on Tyrley Manor. It is not necessary here to go back beyond the year 1740. At that time it was part of the possessions of Charles Fleetwood or Fletewood, whose mother was the heiress of the Gerards of Gerard's Bromley near Ashley.[2]

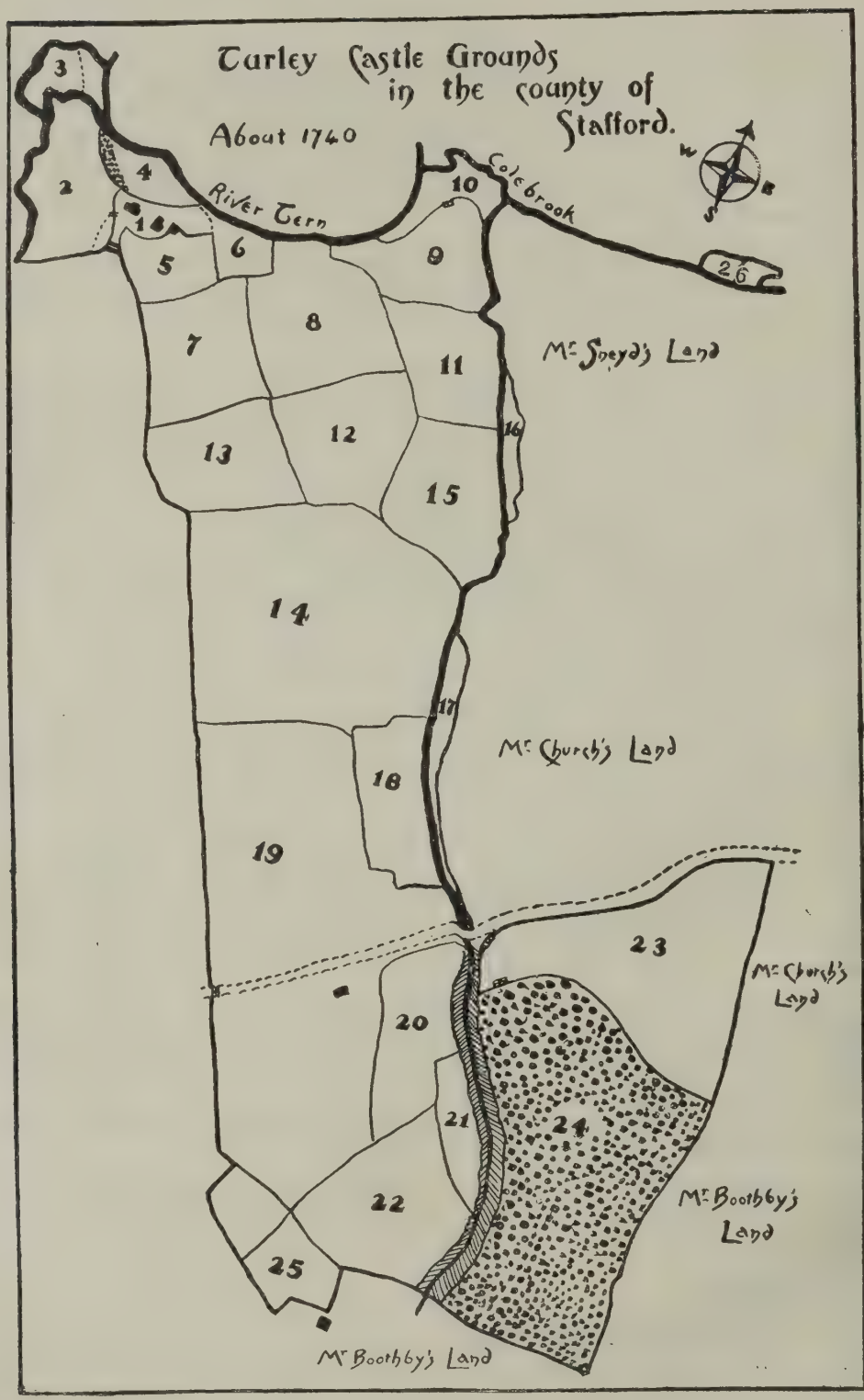
This man, born 24th November 1705, got into monetary difficulties, and in 1740 the Court of Chancery made an order handing over his estates to his creditors. Littleton Pointz Meynell was the principal one of these, and like Aaron's rod he swallowed up the others. By his will dated 1751 he left Tyrley Castle to his second son Hugo, who sold it to Dicken in April 1791, as already stated.[3]

There is an old map[4] of the Tyrley Castle estate as it was in Charles Fleetwood's time, most likely drawn in consequence of the Chancery proceedings; which is interesting, and shows clearly how the land lay in the first half of the 18th century.

The changes which took place between the making of the map and the purchase of the estate by Dicken were as follows:

1. Under an Enclosure Act of 1773 some land adjoining the main road at the top of Pellwall bank, which had been part of Tyrley heath had been enclosed and acquired by Meynell.

1. Tunstall papers.
2. See Appendix F. i.
3. Tyrley Castle Abstract of Title, at Peatswood.
4. Copy of Map given on next page.


Tarley Castle Grounds
in the county of
Stafford.
About 1740
River Tern
Colebrook
W
E
S
Mr Sneyd's Land
Mr Church's Land
Mr Boothby's Land
Mr Church's Land
Mr Boothby's Land
1
2
3
4
5
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7
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10
11
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13
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25
26

TYRLEY CASTLE ACREAGE ABOUT 1740.

		A.	R.	P.
1.	Curtilage	2	3	10
2.	Castle Orchard and Allens	11	0	20
3.	Tan House Meadow	4	3	17
4.	Hell Meadow	3	1	17
5.	Bigg Cote Leasow	6	0	34
6.	Little Cote Leasow	4	1	15
7.	Great Ley	16	1	02
8.	Bigg Broom Field	19	3	20
9.	Vicar's Croft	9	0	20
10.	Butter's Meadow	2	2	32
11.	Clark's Pool	16	3	12
12.	White Leasow	16	2	10
13.	Little Ley	14	2	02
14.	Sheep Pasture	58	1	15
15.	Horse Pasture	11	1	11
16.	Little Bogs	1	2	06
17.	Bigg Bogs	5	0	02
18.	Drayton Coppice	19	0	02
19.	The Heath Ground	81	2	00
20.	Near Cow Leasow	17	3	27
21.	Far Cow Leasow	10	3	23
22.	Copy Banks in two parts	22	0	17
23.	Plain Spring	41	3	16
24.	Rough Spring Wood	63	0	10
		458	0	20
25.	Triner's pieces in two parts of which one-third part only belongs to Mr. Fleetwood. The whole is 8.3.22. Mr. Fleetwood's share is	2	3	34
26.	Paper Mill	2	2	32
		463	3	06

NOTES ON THE MAP OF TYRLEY CASTLE LAND.

1. Allens means grassland recently broken up, or unenclosed land that has been tilled and left to run to feed sheep. (Century Dictionary).

2. The old road formed the western boundary of Nos. 5 and 7, and turned at right angles to the westward at the gate leading into Tyrley Castle, crossing the river by a ford near the Dog Kennel Meadow Cottage, and then going along the Newtown. A footpath, with bridges over the two arms of the river, followed the line of the present main road from Newport to Market Drayton.

3. No. 7 is properly named the "Great Ley;" but for many years past this name has been given in No. 8, instead of its proper name of the "Big Broom Field."

4. It would seem that a brook formerly ran into the Tern through the Tanyard. This has no doubt been diverted into the town sewer. This brook is shown on the east side of No. 3 field, the Tanhouse meadow.

5. The western boundary of Nos. 13, 14, and 19 was formed by Tyrley Heath. This was enclosed under an Act of Parliament, dated 1773.

6. Robert Tryner was tenant of the Hollins, and died in 1651. Tryner's piece is named after him, no doubt.

7. No. 24, and perhaps 23 also, formed Minton Spring, which was allotted to Sir Gilbert Gerard by the writ of partition of Tyrley Manor, dated 1587.

8. Nos. 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 probably formed Tyrley Park, which is mentioned in various documents from 1281 onwards. In 1281 the Manor of Tyrley was said to contain "an unfinished fortalice, a messuage, a garden, an ill-fenced park, and a great wood, which was a Free Chace." Eyton's Shropshire vol. ix., 193.

9. The little brook running from south to north, which goes through the Peatswood Pool, was in the 16th century known as "Clerk's Pool Brook."

2. About 1777[1] the original farm had been divided; the Upper Castle Farm, of which Jonathan Madders was the first tenant, dating from that time. The boundary between the two farms was a straight stone wall, most of which still remains, running east and west from the Clerk's pool brook, (above the present pool,) to the main road leading to Newport.[2]

3. The new turnpike road from Drayton bridge to the top of Pellwall hill had made some slight changes in the boundaries.

4. Some of the large fields had been divided, some woodland cleared and cultivated; and a private canal[3] had been made from a marl pit near Stoneyford to the grass field near the canal bridge on Tyrley Castle Farm, now always called the "Big Ley" but which in 1740 was known as the "Big Broomfield."

This canal served a double purpose; for it enabled a tract of sandy and gravelly land to be marled; and it also made it possible to irrigate the greater part of the Tyrley Castle grass land, though some of it is fifty feet or more above the river Tern. It was destroyed when the Shropshire Union Canal was made, about the year 1828.

5. The water had been made. I have already said that there was a pool below Peatswood, called "Clerk's pool," so far back as the reign of Henry VIII., but this had become dry in 1740 as it is at the present day. Clerk's pool was included in the Preston's lease of 1575, and at the partition of the manor in 1587 it probably became Skrymsher property. But Lord Gerard's property adjoined it on the west, and Mrs. Corbet's, (afterwards Mr. Church's) on the north, so that three empires met there.

Markham seems to have restored Clerk's pool, making it about two acres in extent, and to have entirely made the large upper pool of six acres or more which still exists. This must have been done between 1752, the date of Markham's first lease, and 1778 when he died. Probably it was after 1758, the year in which Meynell married Ann Boothby, the daughter of one of Edward Sneyd's step sisters; as the intimacy of the families would smoothe over the difficulty about boundaries, the pools being partly on Sneyd's land and partly on Meynell's. Probably, too, it was after 1766, the year of Sneyd's second lease to Markham and Lady Markham, for this lease does not mention the pools. No doubt Markham took a lease of Meynell's "Bog Meadow," for his own life and Lady Markham's, but I have not found the document. In a mortgage deed of the Tyrley Castle land dated 5th April 1780, which has been already referred to, the following parcels occur, "a piece of meadow known as the Little Bogs heretofore parcel of Tyrley Castle Farm but now covered with water and in the possession of Lady Markham or her assigns containing one acre two roods and six perches." And "also that other meadow called the Bigg Boggs now partly covered with water, and in the possession of Lady Markham and divided from the other part of the Bigg Boggs in the possession of Jonathan Madders by a bank or ditch and containing three acres."[4]

1. Court Rolls, at Tunstall.
2. Deed of 1780, at Peatswood.
3. Court Roll, at Tunstall, of October 1792. Thos. Eley and Joseph Barker were presented for not repairing the rail and bridge over a new cut or drain at Stoneyford.
4. Papers at Peatswood.

We are thus able to say that the evidence points to the pools having been made between 1766 and 1778.

By the year 1800 Thomas Dicken had a nice compact estate round Peatswood, and also a good deal of scattered property up and down Tyrley. The price of land was steadily rising during the great war, and his speculations ought to have turned out well. But somehow they did not, and in 1808 he was under the necessity of selling. In 1830 he was made a bankrupt, and he died 1st September 1831. His estate subsequently paid 20/- in the pound, and a surplus was left,[1] which was handed over to his relations.

My great uncle, Thomas Twemlow, who bought Peatswood and Tyrley Castle from him in 1808, entered into possession in March 1809, and had his home there till his death in May 1872. His subsequent additions to the property were not considerable, and consisted of:—

1. Some meadow land below the Newtown, known as the "Dog Kennel," "Red Lion," and "Hare" meadows.
2. A few acres between the Colebrook, the canal, and the road leading from the lower Lodge to the canal aqueduct, which had belonged to Broomhall Grange.

[2]In 1810, however, he had contracted with the assignees in bankruptcy of Messrs. Davies for the purchase of the land now occupied by Pellwall and its grounds and plantations as far as the lane which runs through it from Victoria Mill towards the Four Alls. The remainder, including Salisbury Hill, was to be bought by the Squire of Buntingsdale. Difficulties, however, arose about the title, and the negotiations broke down. Eventually in 1820 the property was bought by Mr. Purney Sillito.

The cutting of the Shropshire Union Canal between 1826 and 1830 affected the property a good deal, as it went through the middle of it, cutting it into halves. The canal actually took sixteen acres, and spoiled another nine acres with heaps of debris. It must have been felt to be a great convenience, for before it was made coal had to be carted ten miles or more over hilly roads from the Madeley pits. This involved hard work for men and horses. On one occasion the Peatswood waggoner fell asleep and tumbled off the waggon, which ran over and killed him.

[3]In 1806 a plan was brought forward for making a railway from the Staffordshire Collieries to Drayton, but it collapsed. Even now that Drayton has railways, the canal is an advantage to Peatswood, as it brings coal, bricks, and other heavy goods almost to the door. Like most other things it has drawbacks, and is at times an unwelcome neighbour. This must have been especially the case when it was under construction. Attempts were made at that time to have it diverted, and also to get a stone aqueduct substituted for the embankment across the Colebrook valley: and great complaints were made of interference with the brook and with irrigation rights, and also of danger to the pool dams through the

1. Bankruptcy papers at Peatswood.
2. Papers at Peatswood.
3. Old newspaper cutting.

escape of excessive quantities of water.[1] However in time these matters settled themselves; and a honeymoon tour of some months which my great aunt and uncle took in 1828-9, afforded them a welcome escape from the nuisance.

[2]In 1847 a plan was prepared for converting this canal into a railway, but for some reason it was not persevered with.

In the same year the old paper mill on the Colebrook was done away with, and the dam removed. This was done at the instance of the landowners higher up the stream, whose lands were prejudiced by the back-pounding of the water. At one time this mill had been let for as much as £72 10s. 0d. a year.

No other changes in the property took place during the life time of my great uncle Thomas Twemlow.

Since 1872 the following changes have taken place:

1. The exhausted gravel pit near Pellwall, which had been reserved to the parish by the enclosure award of 1774, was purchased from the Highway Board in 1877 by my father.

2. In 1890 an exchange was made with Francis Egerton Harding of Old Springs, whereby nearly one hundred acres on the south side of the Stoneyford lane, known as Minton spring, the Plain spring, &c., were given up; and land of equal value, though of rather less extent on the north side of the lane was acquired. This latter land went by the old name of Bayley's wood, or Bailiff's spring, and in early times it may have been occupied by the bailiffs of the manor. But it has not been so at any rate since 1524; the Prestons, who were bailiff's then and afterwards, not having held it.

3. In 1892 Broomhall Grange was bought from Mr. Griffin; and an exchange with him effected whereby he took the Dog kennel, Red lion, and Hare meadows, and the Castle orchard, Allens and Tan house meadow, i.e., all the meadow land by the Newtown on the western side of the Drayton and Newport road some twenty acres in all, giving in return thirty-eight acres of land on the eastern side of the same road, near the "Four Alls" public house.

The history of Broomhall Grange is briefly as follows:

It was granted by King Henry III. to the abbot of Combermere in 1266;[3] and remained monastic property till the Reformation, when Sir Rowland Hill obtained it. From him it passed to the Corbets; and in 1599 when Richard Corbet sold his property in Tyrley to William Church, he reserved Broomhall. It remained with the Corbet family till 1878, when it was sold to Mr. Griffin. The mill known as Hinsley Mill is not very ancient: but I do not know when it was made. The old course of the river was along the ditch which runs down the middle of the valley between the two present streams; and which is still the county boundary.

1. Papers at Peatswood.
2. Papers at Peatswood.
3. "History of Market Drayton," by Rev. R. J. Lee, page 42. This may be the confirmation of an earlier grant.

Besides these alterations in the estates boundaries, various re-arrangements of the holdings have taken place.

1. The home farm has taken the thirty acres between Clerk's pool brook and the canal: which used to go with Tyrley Castle farm. And it has given up twenty-eight acres on the south side of the Stoneyford lane, that once went with it; but it has gained about ten acres of "Bayley's Wood." So that on the whole it is rather larger than it was, and far more compact.

2. The Upper Castle farm has been increased considerably. Besides gaining a dozen acres or so on the Old Springs side, it has got the thirty-eight acres by the Four Alls, and about thirteen from the clearing of the old fir wood near the new Tyrley Chapel. As a partial set-off, it has given up a field of nine or ten acres, on the south side of the old boundary wall, to Tyrley Castle.

From all these various causes Tyrley Castle farm has been reduced in size by more than fifty acres since 1808.

3. The Cawdrey Hayes,[1] which was in Markham's lease, and afterwards was let with the old paper mill has now been added to Broomhall Grange.

A list of the tenants of the various holdings, so far as ascertained, with dates, in Appendix F ii.

The woodland on the property has varied from time to time. It reached its lowest point about 1808, the remains of the old forest having been mostly cleared, and no new plantations made. There are certain steep slopes and boggy places which must always be coverts, and are fit for nothing else; but one hundred years ago, any land that could be profitably cultivated was brought under the plough. Thomas Twemlow in his younger days did some planting, principally on Tyrley Heath, and on the "spoil banks" made by the canal company. Most of Tyrley Heath has been cleared again; and the modern plantations are small in size and intended for shelters or screens, or to improve the shooting.

The approach to Peatswood in 1808 was very much on the line of the present top drive. The lower drive was made between that date and 1837, and no doubt laid out by Gilpin, the fashionable landscape gardener of the "Twenties," who arranged the pleasure grounds and gardens also. The walks round the pool are much as they were in the Markhams' time, but it seems that before Gilpin's alterations the kitchen garden and orchard occupied the site of the present undulating lawn. The plan of 1808 shows three straight walks leading from the house towards the water, the middle one following the dip in the ground and coming out at the pool level, and the other two keeping to the higher ground.

This section shall conclude with two letters which have been preserved at Catton, and shed some light upon the state of agriculture in Tyrley during the last quarter of the 18th century.

1. Called "Cawey Hays" in a deed of 1524, and "Caldey Hayes" in one of 1575.

LETTER 1.—*From Edward Sneyd to his niece Mrs. Horton.*

My Dear Niece,

I have the pleasure of yours and would have answer'd it sooner but my Amanuensis was not at leisure till to-day. By the note inclosed in it I am still more sensible of the villainy of the Commissioners in the allotment and distribution of the Heath Lands to Almington.[1]

Influenced no doubt by D'Avenant,[2] who owed me a spite because I would not give him my property in Bloor Heath for a pepper corn; he is a man of no principle, and his near kinsman Mr. Boothby, who was a perfect stranger to his estate and left the management to him, he has cozened, as is commonly reported out of bargains that are worth six or seven thousand pounds. You will not think of enclosing Tirley Heath[3] till you have treated with Markham for his share. And if he does not accept of a reasonable composition as the other Lease-tenants have, he is a scrubb indeed. After I put his wife's life into Peatswood Lease he altered in his behaviour, and I have never liked him since. The Leases are all for three lives. Peatswood was a cottage, and the four score acres about it was six pounds a year, and the greatest part of the land was heath mixed with goss and broom, that small part that was in tillage was in a worse condition than the other, as it had never had any manure upon it since the creation. It occurred to me one day that I had about forty acres[4] of land very different from that, which lay scattered up and down the lordship, and by adding that to Peatswood it would make it a farm. So I got a farmer[5] a spirited man and of good substance to go with me to Peatswood. I showed him the land, and mentioned the forty acres to him, and told him that if he would engage to make an addition to the house and other buildings, necessary for a farm, I would make him a lease for three lives at the old rent, which (by the bye) I could never make of them.

"Squire," says he, "I will consider of it." In three weeks' or a month's time he came to me and says "Squire, I'll make you a farm of the Peatswood on the terms proposed." I lost no time in getting a lease drawn and executed,[6] nor he in making an addition to the cottage, to which he removed, that he might be upon the spot to perform his covenants, and make improvements, and dyed there soon after. His son sold the lease to Markham, he immediately applied to me to 'change the Lives for his own Life and his sister's, (who were both getting into years,) and his Niece's, his sister's Daughter,' to which I readily consented,[7] not doubting but, when he had a certainty of it for himself and his Friends, he would make the greatest improvements. Soon after this he marries, and applyed to me again to exchange his Niece's life for his wife's which was to all appearance a

1. The Enclosure Act provided that the award should be made by June 1774.
2. Colonel Thomas D'Avenant married the heiress of Adderley. He bought Audley Cross Farm, the Folly, and other land at Blore from Boothby Skrymsher, in 1775. Died April 1798, aged 73. He was the son of James D'Avenant, of Clearbrooke, Co. Hereford, and Elizabeth Boothby Skrymsher.
3. The portion of Tirley Heath allotted to Peatswood was opposite the front of the "Four Alls" beerhouse, and is now part of the Upper Castle Farm. It was obtained from Mr. Griffin, in 1892, by exchange. It had passed through various hands since Mrs. Horton sold it.
4. The Briers Birches, Holiday Leasowe, etc., land on the south side of Almington Bridge.
5. Thomas Besford.
6. Dated 6th December 1726.
7. Lease dated 29th September 1752.

better life for a worse, in that I obliged him also.[1] I had a piece of land in Lease contiguous to Peatswood[2] which the Lessee[3] had set to undertenants, who had brought nothing to it, but got all they could from it, by which means it was so beggared that (I was credibly informed) the Lessee could not set it for more rent than he paid me. And the way to it from my own House was so very bad that I could not think of taking it into my own hands so that I resolved to put it into Markham's Lease when I made the last alteration in it. And if I did wrong it was merely an error of judgment, as he was the only man I could think of that would improve it and bring it by degrees to itself again, as he had done the other parts of the farm.[4]

I thought myself very happy when I made a Lease to Joseph Preston of the two meadows[5] at the old rent. They lye so ill for setting, are so bad in Nature, and require so much to be done to them, that they will never be sett for the old rent again, except to the same house and upon the same terms. They were the plague of my Life and I could never get more than Eleven pounds for them, and had them on my own Hands one year and am sure I did not make eight pounds of them. The cottage[6] I leased to my old maid who I brought with me to Almington at the old rent, it was in a ruinous condition, and I believe cost her ten or eleven pounds to make it habitable.

I am glad to hear you are got out of the doctor's hands, and wish the weather may favour your taking your usual exercise in order for your perfect recovery.

And am my dear niece,
Your very affectionate Uncle,
E. Sneyd.[7]

P.S. My nephews and niece desire their best compliments to you. I have not yet recovered my last fit it has left a great tenderness and weakness in my feet and in my wrists, especially one in which I had great pain for several days and nights.

Keel, *17th February 1775.*

To Mrs. Horton, at Cannock near Lichfield Staffordshire.

1. Lease dated 29th September 1766.
2. The Cawderey Hayes, put at 7a. 3r. 30p. in the map of 1669.
3. The lease was given by Sir C. Skrymsher to Laurence Tompson, 8th April 1666, and the rent was £2 13s. 4d.
4. In the lease of 1752, it was provided that Sir James was to have the Cawderey Hayes as soon as the existing lease of it expired, 31st August 1755.
5. The Great Radley meadow and Newcroft, about 20a., near Brodwall-spring (the Brodder).
6. Not identified, but most likely in Almington Village.
7. Edward Sneyd made over Almington Hall to his niece Frances Horton in 1768; and seems to have made his home at Keel afterwards, when not travelling abroad.

LETTER 2. *From George Parker (late of the Inner Temple), and lessee of Almington Hall 1769 to 1783, to Christopher Horton of Catton.*

FREEFORD, *Octo. 15th 1786.*

Dear Sir,

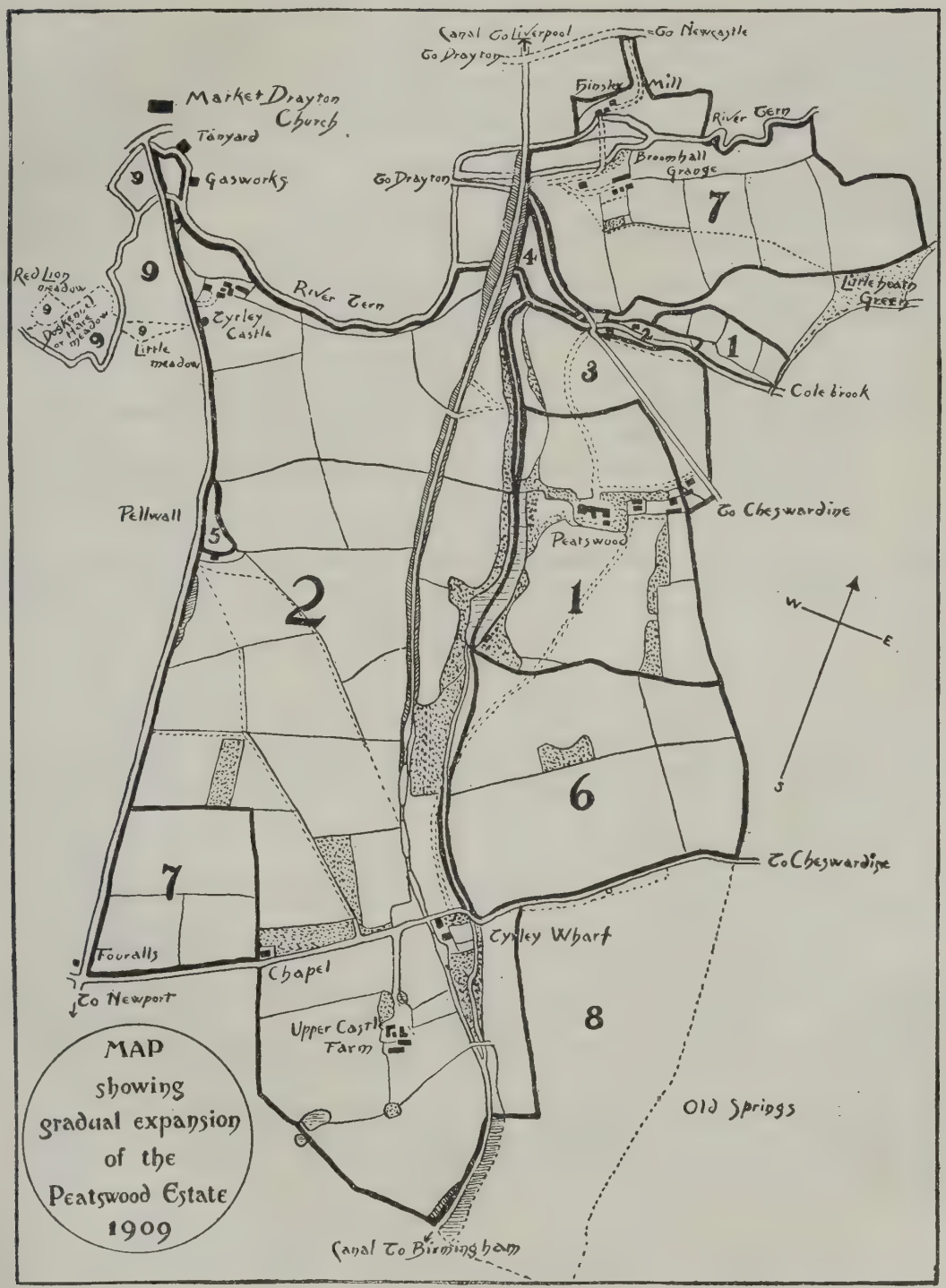
Unfortunately Mr. (Purser?) slept at Fisherwick and I had no early opportunity of sending an answer to your first letter which I deposited with Mr. (Everet?) and have directed your servant to go round by Lichfield immediately. Our suit[1] with the late vicar secured us the modus of hay at 8d. per acre and three half pence cow and calf.[2] Agistment we lost, never before demanded. But upon the whole it was a great victory, as it secured the two principal objects, the farms being cheese farms. The principal part of the new enclosures was sold at Drayton, my share was only ten acres, which I improved with some success.[3] But understand it is now reduced to its pristine state. I don't think much could be added to the rent of these lands, as they are very thin skinned, and no marl near. The very dishevelled state the lands I held are now in, will not admit of much advance. The only farm to advance with any degree of propriety, is Lady Markham's; which is in lease for lives. On the whole, I fear there will not be much soon, except in the woodlands, *provided* you can get Joseph Preston's lease of 22 acres, chiefly meadowland.[4] These are the principal features, if I recollect anything material I will (inform?) you, and am, dear Sir,

Yours very sincerely,

GEORGE PARKER.

Mr. Dyot's[5] writing implements are so unpropitious that I fear you will have difficulty to make this out.

1. Tried in the Court of Exchequer, Michaelmas term, 1781. Old papers at Peatswood.
2. Tithe herbage or agistment. Not payable on young cattle, or on farm horses, nor for any horses or cattle kept on aftermath or stubbles.
3. Two closes called the "Heathy field," and "Little Croft," between Almington and Bloreheath, containing about 8½ acres.
4. Great Radley meadow, etc.
5. This apology is by no means uncalled for.


Canal To Liverpool
To Newcastle
To Drayton
Market Drayton Church
Tanyard
Gasworks
Hinsley Mill
River Tern
Broomhall Grange
To Drayton
Red Lion meadow
Dogkennel or Hare meadow
Little meadow
Tyrley Castle
River Tern
Little heath Green
Colebrook
Pellwall
To Cheswardine
Peatswood
W
E
S
To Cheswardine
Tyrley Wharf
Fouralls
Chapel
To Newport
Upper Castle Farm
Old Springs
Canal To Birmingham
MAP showing gradual expansion of the Peatswood Estate 1909

MAP OF PEATSWOOD ESTATE IN 1908,
Showing its Gradual Expansion.

No. 1. The land originally known as Peatswood, and the detached piece called Cauderey Hayes; bought by Dicken, 23rd March 1787.

No. 2. Tyrley Castle land, increased since 1740 by allotments of common land, &c., bought by Dicken 5th April 1791; also the old paper mill on the Colebrook.

No. 3. Land acquired by Dicken under the exchange of 25th March 1798.

No. 4. Haines' moor and part of Haines' field, bought by Thomas Twemlow, 13th August 1836, from the Corbet trustees.

No. 5. Old parish gravel pit, bought by Francis Cradock Twemlow 11th April 1877.

No. 6. Land originally known as Bayley's wood, or Bailiff's spring; acquired by exchange 31st July 1890, from Mr. Harding.

No. 7. Land acquired 25th March 1892, partly by purchase and partly by exchange, from Mr. Griffin.

No. 8.—Dotted Lines. Land given up under the exchange of 1890 to Mr. Harding.

No. 9.—Dotted Lines. Part of Tyrley Castle land, and some other fields bought by Thomas Twemlow after 1809; given up to Mr. Griffin in 1892.

ABUTTALS.

It may be well to give a list of the adjoining owners at the present time, December 1908:

1. The meadow land between the Pellwall lodge and Market Drayton bridge still belongs to Mr. Griffin (No. 9 on the the plan).

2. Pellwall belongs to Mr. J. Monro Walker.

3. The land between Pellwall wood and the Four Alls public house belongs to Mr. Tayleur of Buntingsdale.

4. From the Four Alls to the canal cutting Mr. Griffin is again the adjoining owner.

5. Crossing over to the eastern side of the canal, Mr. Harding's (of Old Springs) land adjoins as far as the lane leading from the Four Alls to Cheswardine.

6. From this lane to the point near Hinsley mill when the canal again becomes the boundary, Mr. Broughton's (of Tunstall) land abuts; and the boundary is a very crooked one.

7. The meadows on the north side of the Tern, between the canal embankment and the gasworks belong to Mrs. Wilson of the Grove.

2. The House at Peatswood. It has already been said that the first house at Peatswood, a mere cottage, was built by a family named Bannister between 1685 and 1705. It will also have been gathered from Edward Sneyd's letter just quoted that about 1726 the cottage was enlarged and made into a farmhouse by Thomas Besford. This house must have stood on the site of the present back stairs and large room of 1903.

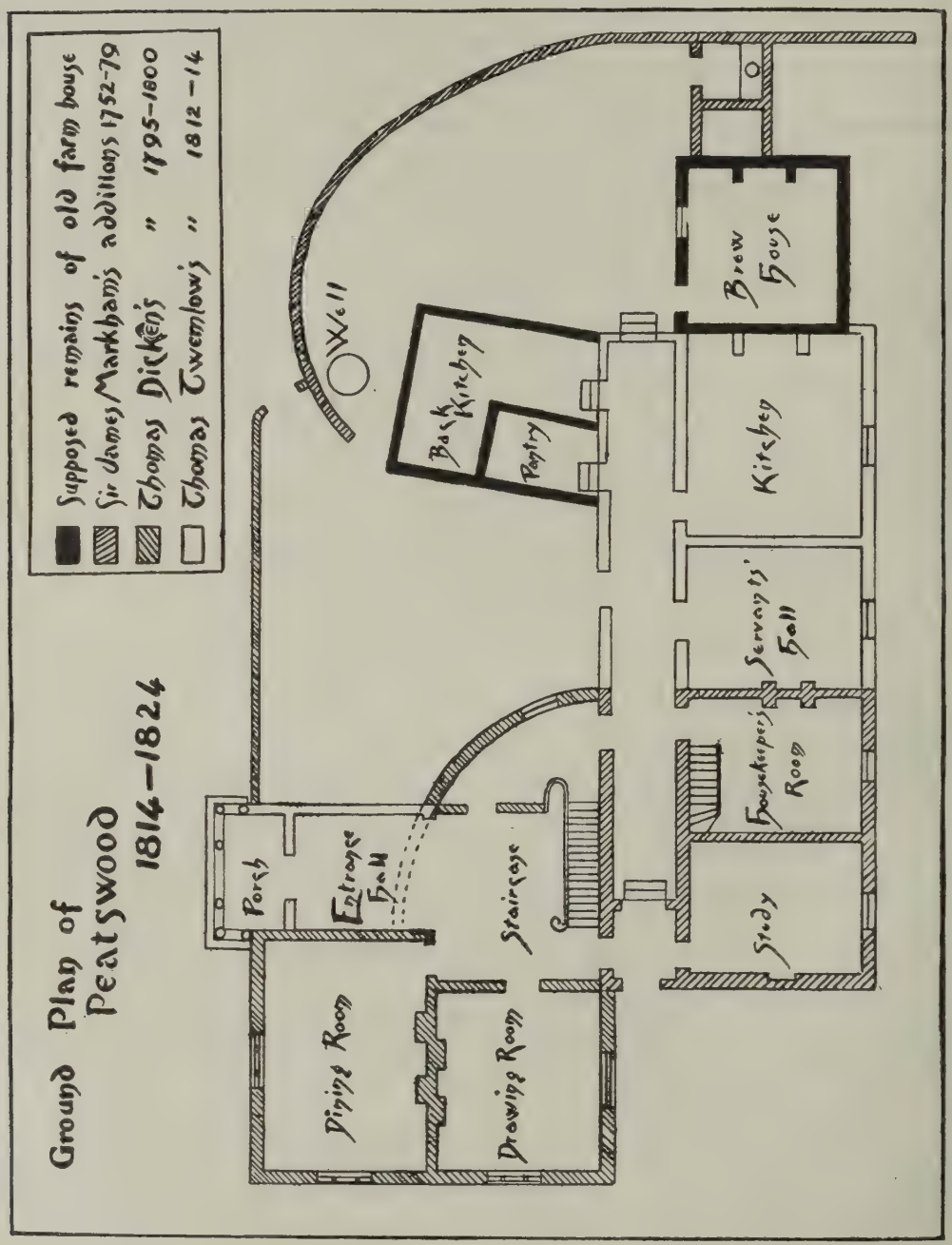
When Sir James Markham and his sister came to live there about 1752, a further addition was made, standing more or less upon the site of the present dining-room and passage where the lift is. This portion consisted of an entrance and two little parlours on the ground floor, with two storeys of bedrooms over. By the lease which Sneyd gave to Markham it was agreed that Sneyd should pay the tax upon the windows in the existing farmhouse, numbering nineteen; and that Markham was to pay any additional tax caused by his increasing the size of the house. It is not recorded how many new windows Markham put in, but two of them, with heavy oak sash bars an inch and a half wide, are still doing duty in the offices. Nowadays, glass being cheap and the window tax abolished, we are able to indulge more freely in fresh air and daylight. The present house, including the stable block, has over 150 windows besides ten skylights, a number which Sneyd and Markham might have considered preposterous.

Lady Markham had a lease of Peatswood for her life granted by Edward Sneyd, and might well have remained there to enjoy the house with its grounds and pools that she and her husband had planned, until her death in 1828. In that case the Twemlow family would probably never have come there at all. But, after his purchase of Peatswood, Dicken wished to have possession of it; and he disputed the validity of Lady Markham's lease, saying that Sneyd, being only owner for life had no power to grant it. Apparently that was so, though in 1731 Christopher Horton and Frances Buswell had, previous to their marriage, covenanted to hand over the Almington estate to Edward Sneyd absolutely. This however was never done, and the deed of covenant was afterwards cancelled. But it is still to be seen at Catton. I do not know how long the controversy lasted, or how it ended. The Hortons took Lady Markham's side; and it certainly appears hard that a contract which had been treated as valid for thirty-five years, and under which large sums of money had been spent upon the place, should thus be set aside. Lady Markham was on the suit roll of the Court of Tyrley Manor in 1795, so that she must have been still at Peatswood then.

Dicken was at Peatswood in March 1798,[1] therefore she must have left before that time. I do not know when she bought the Grove. Colonel and Mrs. D'Avenant were living there in 1794,[2] and Colonel D'Avenant died in[3] April 1798.[4]

After entering into possession of Peatswood, Thomas Dicken proceeded to enlarge the house by adding a block at the north-west corner of Markham's building, placed "en echelon" (to borrow a military phrase), consisting of a new dining-room and drawing-room, with two storeys of bedrooms; and he attached

1. Deed of Exchange at Peatswood.
2. Invitation card to Shrewsbury Hunt Ball, October 1794, at the Grove.
3. His trustees sold land at Bloreheath to Sir John Chetwode in June, 1799.
4. Market Drayton Registers.


Ground Plan of Peatswood 1814–1824
Supposed remains of old farm house
Sir James Markham's additions 1752-79
Thomas Dickens " 1795-1800
Thomas Twemlow's " 1812-14
Porch
Entrance Hall
Staircase
Dining Room
Drawing Room
Well
Back Kitchen
Pantry
Brew House
Kitchen
Servants' Hall
Housekeeper's Room
Study

it to the existing house by means of an entrance hall and staircase, in the form of a quarter circle. The quadrant wall of this structure was a stumbling block to his successors for upwards of a century, drawing as it did a bar sinister across all plans for extending the house in that direction. Inroads were made upon it from time to time, and the last vestige of it was cleared away during the alterations of 1903. He put in some good oak floors and mahogany doors; and some mantelpieces and a fender which survive, are good of their kind. The downstairs windows were all of the three-light Venetian pattern, but were altered about 1825. A water colour sketch taken from Clerk's pool dam, shows the house as it was at this time.

Markham's little parlours became the study and housekeeper's room, and the old farmhouse continued to do duty as kitchen offices.

The first thing that Thomas Twemlow did was to pull down and rebuild this latter part, which was done between 1812 and 1814, the accounts being still preserved. Bricks and stone were obtained on the place, oak timber from Weston; and the gray slates were carted some twenty-five miles from Wheelock, near Sandbach, that being apparently the most accessible point on the Trent and Mersey Canal.

Detailed accounts are given, and the cost of the work seems very small when compared with builder's prices of the present day.

The entrance was altered at the same time, and had a stone portico. I imagine that in 1825 when further alterations were made, this portico was moved to the west side of the house facing the pool. I took it away from there in 1881, and put a bay window in its place. The columns were used in 1893 to build the present summer house, after being considerably shortened to improve their proportions.

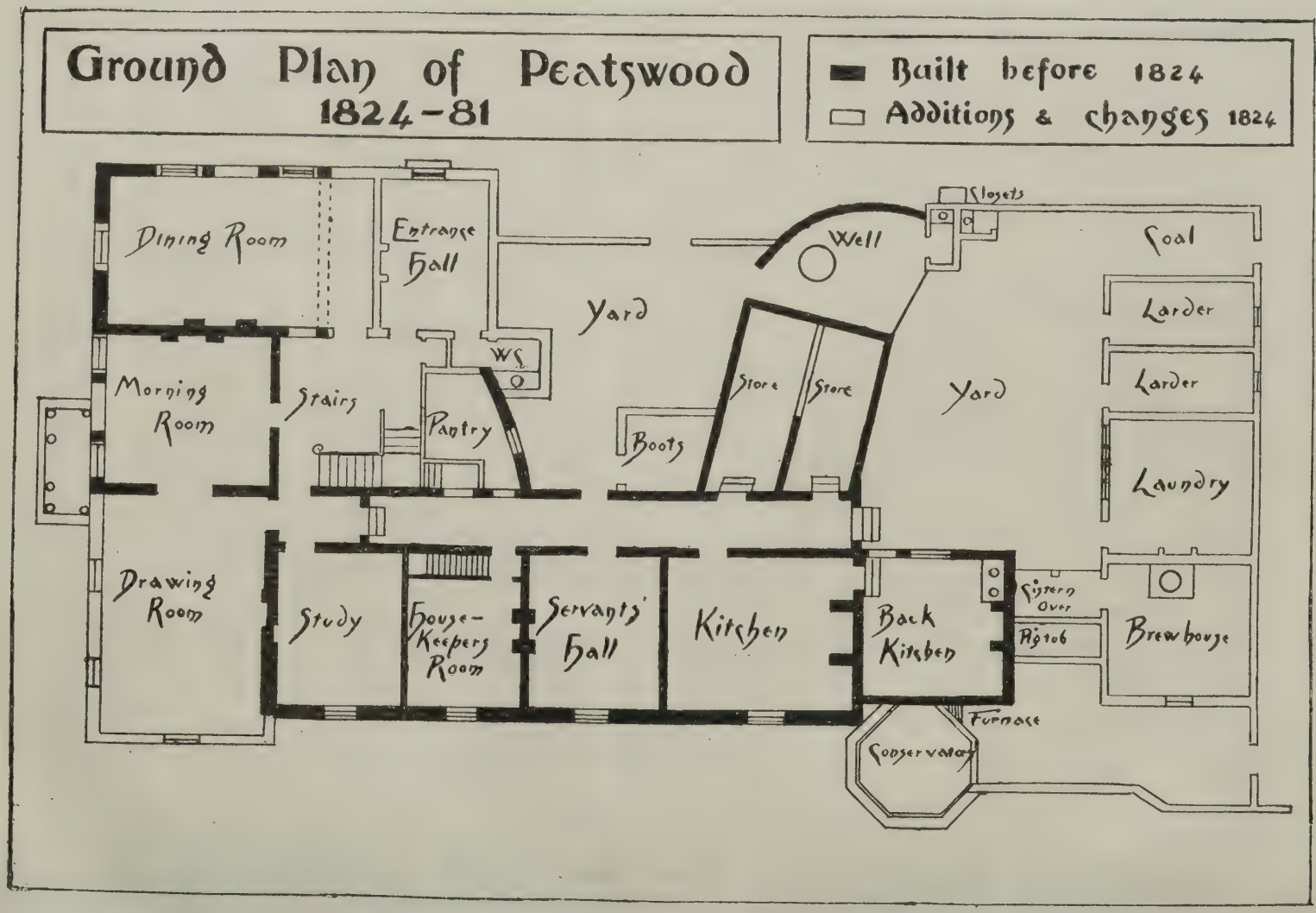
Between 1824 and 1826 more work was done. The large drawing-room was built, with the rooms over it; the main staircase was altered and assumed its present form; and the dining-room (the present library,) was enlarged by taking out the wall at the eastern end, and adding 6 feet or so to its length. This wall has since been put back again, and the extra space given to the entrance hall.

There is a bundle of plans showing various ideas which were considered and rejected—fortunately. One notion was to make all the living rooms face north and west, and to have the kitchen offices on the sunny side, the scullery occupying the site of the present drawing-room. Efforts were made to provide for a large new room on the eastern side of the entrance hall; but Dicken's curved wall was always an obstacle.

The new drawing-room was a great improvement to the house, and it filled up the awkward re-entering angle left between Markham's and Dicken's work. The square central staircase too, was much better than the old narrow one with winding steps.

The house as altered served its purpose well for more than 50 years, and was the scene of many pleasant parties. Externally it was cemented or plastered, and whitewashed.[1]

1. In July 1867, my great uncle, as it were, cast his mantle upon me. Hearing that I was fond of architecture, he gave me his text book on the subject, and wrote my name in it. After a lapse of more than 40 years, I am still trying to carry out his principles.—FRAS. R. T.


Ground Plan of Peatswood
1824–81
Built before 1824
Additions & changes 1824
Dining Room
Entrance Hall
Yard
Closets
Well
Coal
Larder
Larder
Laundry
Morning Room
Stairs
Pantry
W.C.
Store
Store
Yard
Boots
Drawing Room
Study
House-Keepers Room
Servants' Hall
Kitchen
Back Kitchen
Cistern Over
Range
Brewhouse
Furnace
Conservatory

On their return from their honeymoon in 1829, with their minds full of the beautiful gardens of Italy, and of the evergreen oaks and cypresses, Thomas and Harriet Twemlow proceeded to improve the pleasure grounds and gardens at Peatswood, employing Gilpin (the fashionable artist who laid out Drayton Basset for Sir Robert Peel) to assist them. Harriet was a good artist in water colours and a person of quick perception; and Thomas was a man of much shrewd common sense, who had long studied tree culture. In the Peatswood library is a copy of "Marshall on Planting and Rural Ornament," bought by Thomas Twemlow in 1809; and this seems to have been the first work which completely dealt with the subject, from historical, artistic, and business points of view.

The historical part was written by Horace Walpole, who starts from Adam and Noah, continues with Homer and Pliny, passes on to Lord Bacon, Sir William Temple and the Renaissance School, but reserves most of his praise for Kent and "Capability" Brown, and the landscape school of his own day.

He quotes with disapproval Sir William Temple's pronouncement in favour of a formal system, as being the safest plan. Sir William says "What I have said of the best forms of gardens, is meant only of such as are in some sort regular; for there may be other forms wholly irregular, that may, for aught I know, have more beauty than any of the others; but they must owe it to some extraordinary disposition of nature in the seat, or some great race of fancy or judgment in the contrivance, which may reduce many disagreeing parts into some figure which shall yet upon the whole be very agreeable. Something of this I have seen in some places, but heard more of it from others, who have lived much among the Chinese, a people whose way of thinking seems to lie as wide of ours in Europe as their own country does. Their greatest reach of imagination is employed in contriving figures, where the beauty shall be great and strike the eye, but without any order or disposition of parts, that shall be commonly or easily observed. And though we have hardly any notion of this sort of beauty, yet they have a particular word to express it; and where they find it hit their eye at first sight, they say the Sharawadgi is fine or is admirable, or any such expression of esteem:—but I should hardly advise any of these attempts in the figure of gardens among us; they are adventures of too hard achievement for any common hands; and though there may be more honour if they succeed well, yet there is more dishonour if they fail, and it is twenty to one they will; whereas in regular figures, it is hard to make any great and remarkable faults," on which Walpole remarks, "Fortunately Kent and a few others were not quite so timid, or we might still be going up and down stairs in the open air."

Walpole then waxes enthusiastic over the destruction of boundary walls and the substitution of sunk fences; and says, "Kent leaped the fence, and saw that all nature was a garden." He continues, "We have discovered the point of perfection. We have given the true model of gardening to the world; let other countries mimic or corrupt our taste; but let it reign here on its verdant throne, original by its elegant simplicity, and proud of no other art than that of softening nature's harshness, and copying her graceful touch."

But even Walpole was constrained to admit that reformation had been carried too far. He regrets the noble avenues, and says "the total banishment

of all particular neatness immediately about a house, which is frequently left gazing by itself in the middle of a park, is a defect. Sheltered and even close walks in so very uncertain a climate as ours, are comforts ill-exchanged for the few picturesque days that we enjoy; and whenever a family can purloin a warm and even something of an old-fashioned garden from the landscape designed for them by the undertaker in fashion, without interfering with the picture, they will find satisfaction on those days that do not invite strangers to come and see their improvements."

According to Marshall, "The Rural Art is subject to these three principles: to nature as being an imitative art; to utility, as being productive of objects which are useful as well as ornamental; and to taste, in the choice of fit objects to be imitated, and of fit purposes to be pursued; as also in the composition of the several objects and ends proposed, so as to produce the degree of gratification and use, best suited to the place, and to the purpose for which it is about to be ornamented. Nor can taste be confined to nature and utility, the place and the purpose, alone; the object of the Polite Arts is the gratification of the human mind, and the state of refinement, of the mind itself, must be considered. Men's notions vary, not only in different ages, but individually in the same age; what would have gratified mankind a century ago in this country, will not please them now; while the country squire and the fine gentlemen of the present day require a different kind of gratification; nevertheless under these various circumstances, everything may be *natural* and everything adapted to the *place;* the *degree of refinement* constituting the principal difference."

With the benefit of such instructions as these, and with Gilpin's assistance, Thomas and Harriet made new approaches to Peatswood, laid out the grounds between the house and the water, and did a considerable amount of planting. The walled kitchen garden probably dates from this time, though it may be older. There was a flower garden on the south side of the house, where the present one is, which was the object of Harriet's particular care. When I recollect it, it had ribbon borders, and raised beds of basket shape, made of woodwork covered with ivy, and other accessories of the early Victorian type. There was also an old Scotch fir with a rustic seat round it; and the octagon conservatory was a pleasant feature, and helped to hide out the kitchen offices. Nothing, however, could conceal the smell of the farmyard and pig styes, which were disagreeably near. The pools and their surroundings probably were left unchanged, and remained much as they had been in Lady Markham's time; except that the rhododendrons, which now grow so luxuriantly, were introduced, with some misgivings as to whether they would live or not.

I shall return to the subject of the gardens, when describing the changes which were carried out at a later date.

Thomas Twemlow died in his ninetieth year, after being blind for a time; and his widow, who had the house for her life, survived him for eight years, and died in 1880. At that time the house had become much out of repair, besides being greatly in want of modern conveniences. The first thing to be done seemed to be to make it tenantable and comfortable; the outside appearance was a secondary consideration.

PEATSWOOD IN 1895.

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My father (who died in 1879, before his aunt, and never lived at Peatswood) had given the problem some consideration, and had determined upon three changes if he had lived to carry them out :

1. A new dining-room was to be built facing the south-east ; and conveniently placed as regards the offices.

2. The farmyard was to be removed and put nearer the road, and further from the house.

3. Clerk's pool was to be drained.

These accordingly became leading features in the programme to which several others were added, viz :—

4. The provision of a smoking room.

5. The building of a new kitchen, pantry, scullery, etc. on the north side, the old kitchen becoming the servants' hall, and the old servants' hall the housekeeper's room. The men servants' bedrooms were put over the new kitchen wing, and the womens' rooms on the south side. The back yard was also remodelled. The old kitchen on the south side was by no means a paradise for the cook in the summer time, especially when the jam was being made and the place full of wasps.

6. Modern ideas of comfort demanded a heating apparatus, a lift, a hot and cold water supply to the upper floors, and a new system of drainage.

The only water supplies in the old days came from a small rain-water tank at the top of the house, which often failed, and from a deep well in the back yard.

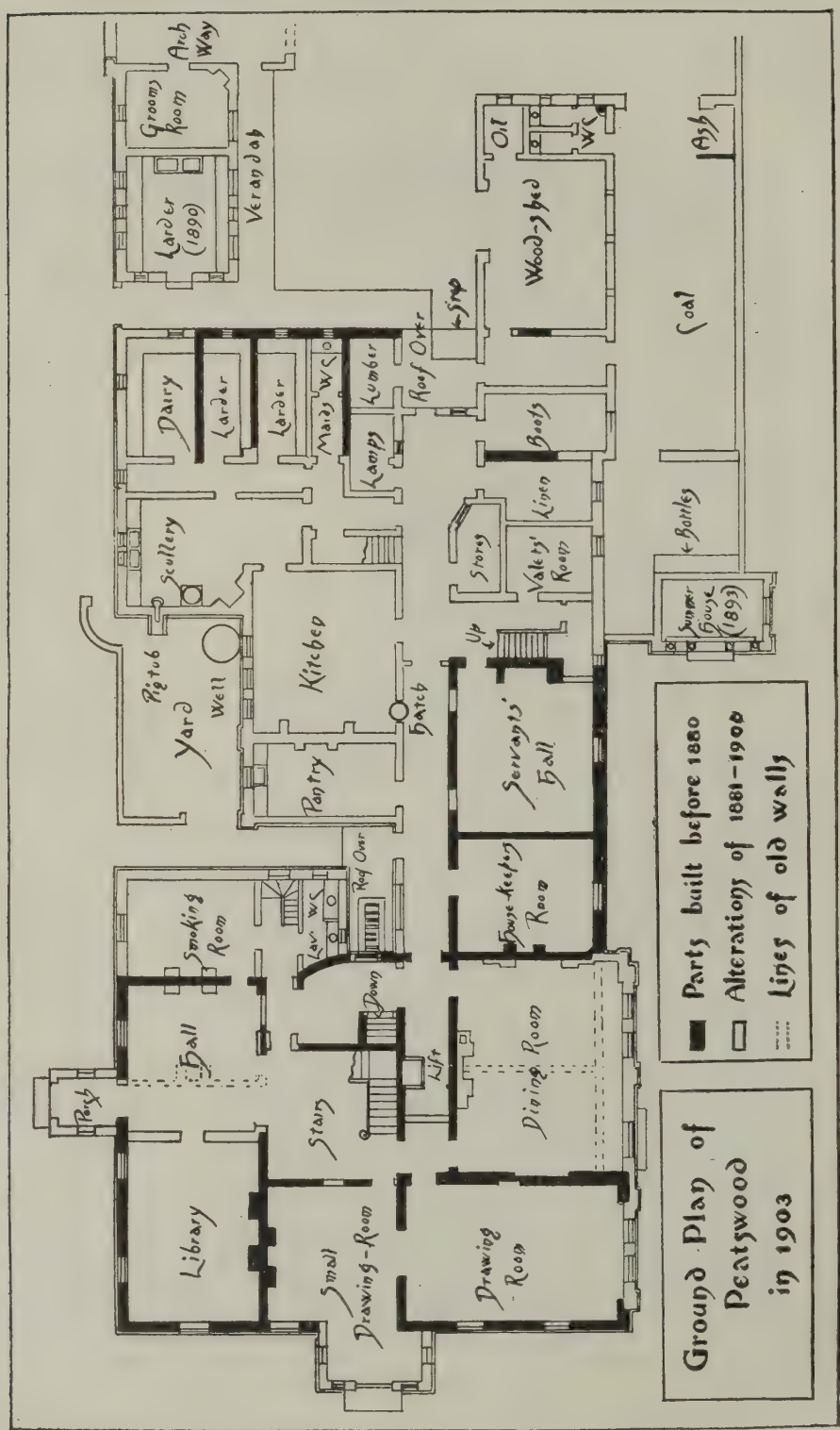
Pumping water and carrying it upstairs meant very heavy work for the housemaids.

For some years the garden had been supplied with water by a dam at the pool ; and this arrangement was in the first instance extended to the house. But the water was often very discoloured and unpleasant : so after a few years it was given up, and a new supply brought by gravitation from a large pond with a spring in it at the back of the Upper Castle Farm.

The old house drain was a brick culvert, which ran into a hole in the field less than 100 yards from the front door, from whence the sewage trickled into surface gutters. In 1881 a nine inch socket pipe drain was put in, leading to a tank in the meadow some 300 yards from the house.

All this work took about three years to complete. A new upper drive was made, and a pair of cottages built to act as a lodge to it ; and various changes were made in the flower garden, pleasure ground walks, etc. The kitchen garden was also enlarged.

After Clerk's Pool was drained, the old dam was raised to improve the gradient of the cart road which led to the fields which had been put to the home farm, and also to the canal landing stage, and it has since been widened.


Arch Way
Grooms Room
Larder (1890)
Verandah
Oil
WC
Wood-shed
Ash
Coal
Strip
Roof Over
Dairy
Larder
Larder
Maids WC
Lumber
Lamps
Boots
Linen
Stores
Valets' Room
Bottles
Summer House (1893)
Scullery
Pigtub
Yard
Well
Kitchen
Hatch
Pantry
Up
Servants' Hall
House-keeping Room
Roof Over
Smoking Room
Lav. WC
Down
Hall
Lift
Dining Room
Porch
Stairs
Library
Small Drawing-Room
Drawing Room
Parts built before 1880
Alterations of 1881–1900
Lines of old walls
Ground Plan of Peatswood in 1903

After several years devoted to rebuilding farmyards on the estate, the stables were taken in hand in 1889. They were built piecemeal, so as always to have some accommodation for use; and were finished in 1891. The carpenter's shop, which was for a time used as a carriage house, was built in 1889.

New vineries and plant houses were put up and the garden wall repaired in 1892, and the summer house at the end of the south terrace was built in 1893.

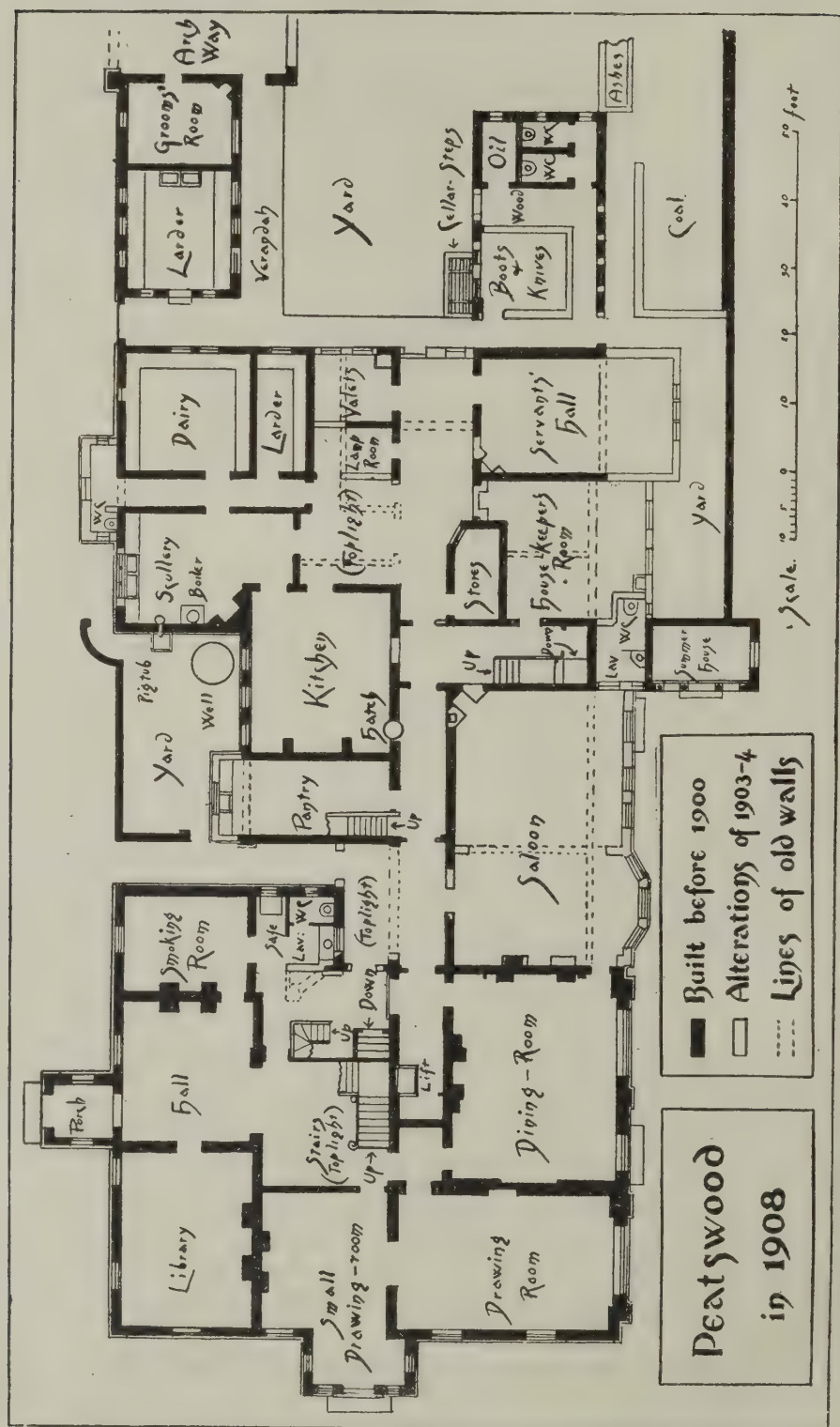
In 1894 a nursery had to be started, and a boudoir was also found to be necessary. This led to some further alterations in 1897-8, which considerably reduced the number of the maid servants' bedrooms. The pinch was felt still more when a school-room was required, and childrens' parties began.

So in 1903 another, and it is to be hoped final, revision of the house plan took place. At that time the following changes were made.

The housekeeper's room and servants' hall (which had been built about 1812), were converted into a new room, to be used for music and dancing, and as a smoking lounge in the evenings.

Over part of this a new school-room with a balcony was made. The panelled room over the other part, which had been fitted up in 1897-8 (mostly with old oak from Weston Hall, but supplemented by old pews from Drayton Church and by new framing sawn out of old beams) was left much as it was. A new housekeeper's room with two maid servants' rooms over it, was made on the east side of the back stairs; and a new servants' hall beyond that again. By doing away with some cross walls and putting in girders, the back entrance was made lighter and more spacious and airy, and the smaller rooms were re-arranged. The cellar was enlarged, and new entrances made to it from the back yard and from the back staircase. (The old approach to the cellar had been between the pantry and the dining-room, and was found to be very inconvenient). The pantry was enlarged, and a butler's bedroom with a separate staircase, made over it. The other men servants' bedrooms were given over to the women, and the men put in the rooms over the saddle room and coach house. Two additional bath rooms were provided, making four in all; the small staircase in the back hall was moved; and the serving passage enlarged and improved so as to make an approach to the new room. The main staircase which showed signs of weakness, was strengthened and embellished. The heating apparatus was moved to another part of the cellar, and enlarged; the electric light was brought from the new generating station at Market Drayton, and installed in the house and stables; a water wheel was put down in the meadow, whereby the water from the beautiful spring near the lower lodge was pumped up to the top of the house, providing both drinking and washing water for the house, farm, and cottages: and a septic tank and filter beds were provided for treating the sewage and preventing river pollution, a second sewer being made to allow of the surface water and sewage being dealt with separately. A new drive was also made across the fields to Tyrley Wharf, shortening the distance to places in the direction of Newport by about a mile.

In 1902 new orchard houses were put up in the kitchen garden.


Peatswood in 1908
Built before 1900
Alterations of 1903-4
Lines of old walls
Scale
Arch Way
Grooms' Room
Larder
Verandah
Yard
Cellar-Steps
Oil
Wood
WC
Boots & Knives
Ashes
Coal
Dairy
Larder
Valets
Lamp Room
Servants' Hall
Scullery
Boiler
(Toplight)
Stores
House Keepers Room
Yard
Pigtub
Well
Kitchen
Hatch
Down
Lav
Summer House
Yard
Pantry
Up
Saloon
Smoking Room
Safe
Lav
WC
(Toplight)
Down
Up
Lift
Porch
Hall
Stairs (Toplight)
Up
Dining-Room
Library
Small Drawing-room
Drawing Room

In 1907 the drawing rooms were re-decorated, and the two narrow south windows were thrown together and made one wide one. A new marble chimney piece was put in the larger room. And the collections of pictures and china, which had been bequeathed to Mrs. Twemlow by her uncle, Mr. Egginton Erle Drax, were arranged and displayed.

In 1908 the dining-room was taken in hand, and the windows made to match those in the drawing-room. The walls were made white, and a little ornament in raised plaster was introduced, to bring this room into harmony with the others.

In 1907-8 a good deal was done to the flower garden and terrace immediately adjoining the house. The form which the work took was largely no doubt the result of visits which the owners of Peatswood paid to Rome in 1904 and 1905. Italy cast its spell over them, as it had done in the case of Thomas and Harriet three-quarters of a century earlier. But a further inspiration was derived from a most suggestive article on the "Italian Garden," which appeared in the *Edinburgh Review* of January 1907; and from which a few quotations may not be out of place.

Writing of the Italian Villas of the seventeenth century, the reviewer says "The succession of easy terraces, mounted by elaborate stairways, the airy outline of balustrades, the fountains that spring in stone and marble basins, the dark velvet of clipped cypress and box, throwing the rows of sculptured figures into relief, the casino or pavillion, of classic form—all reveal that close application to the needs of a complex life which is the note of the classic garden. These gardens possess moreover a quality which we intuitively divine in the accounts of the gardens of an earlier age; the charm of distinction. There is an unity of design with absence of conscious effort, a princely grace that unites impressive dignity with the modesty that comes of refinement and due proportion; a charm only to be likened to the human charm of a perfect manner."

"The practical use to be made of the garden and the enjoyment afforded by it were the determining factors of garden design in Italy. The pleasant screened courts for meditation, for confidential talks, above all for lovemaking, the most conspicuous of all elements in Italian life, the long walks allowing of exercise in the cool shade, the broad terraces for dining on, for strolling in groups, broad enough to allow of several walking abreast, the loggia and belvedere where the host and his friends could sit and enjoy the loveliness of the view; each and all were features demanded by the habits of daily life and having a special significance."

"The Italian garden, splendid as it is, contrives to combine something which we can only describe as comfort with its splendour. It is a place in which you long to linger and spend your day. With all its lavish ornaments, its size and grandeur, it has a homelike feeling."

"The Italian garden in its entirety, forms a link between the domesticity of the dwelling on the one hand, and the beauty or wildness of nature on the other. It expands and amplifies the house; unrestricted space is not essential to it, for however small the extension, it is felt as part of the building, carried out

in a mixture of foliage and stone work. Indeed size is of less importance if the surrounding country can be pressed into the scheme, and the garden maker, like the Romans of classic days and the Italians of the Renaissance, sacrifices trees to secure distance, and gains vistas and perspective, if only into the kitchen garden."

"The development of gardening as a fine art has always marked a certain phase of culture and matured under the influence of a refined and exquisite sense of the many sidedness of life. 'Men come to build stately, sooner than to garden finely' said Lord Bacon, recognising in this art one of the 'last words' of culture and refinement."

"Much of the charm of the old gardens in England and Scotland, which seem often to have been as fully the work of the owner as of the professional designer, lies in the individual touch with which they are endowed. They speak of long past summers of thought and loving care, of months and years spent in that pursuit, 'the inclination of kings, the choice of philosophers, a pleasure of the greatest, and the care of the meanest.' The impression that the garden has been really loved gives a charm that mere soulless copying, the revival of a fashion, the arbitrary adoption of the taste of another age, can never impart. You may arm yourself with the most correct plans, may order the finest balustrading, an unlimited supply of vases, the most expensive fountains, but the result is quite likely to be a failure, to be cold, heartless, and empty if the individual human touch, the sincere and understanding mind are lacking, and if some definite and truthful purpose does not inform the whole."

"Every garden in time stores up memories, and it is not for anyone to say that romance and sentiment may not gather round the bedded-out grass plot of the fifties and sixties or hallow the gravel of the early Victorian 'sweep,' but just as a house collects more intimate associations than a landscape, so the sense of human tendency will be more pronounced as the garden can be considered essentially a part of the house itself, endowed with that stability and defined purpose of design which marks it as the intelligent work, and the habitation of men and women."

"In the degree to which the garden thus enters into the life of man, gardening itself may be said to rise to the level of a fine art. It will be objected, perhaps, that in a climate like ours the garden can scarcely become quite so intimate a part of life as it can in Italy. Nevertheless, it may with due management become a sufficiently intimate part. For besides the summer months there are many days all through the year when it is pleasant to be in the garden. Whenever the right measures are taken, wherever there are found loggia and arbours facing the sun, with ramparts of clipped hedge shielding them from cold winds and sheltered alleys paved with brick or stone for walking, the number of days when it is pleasant to be in the garden is, of course, much increased, and the garden becomes closely associated with a full expression of life, and to that extent becomes more of a fine art."

"Thus to draw the garden into life is the ultimate ideal of the science of gardening. Carefully held in view, it must enforce upon every owner of a garden the need of a definite meaning for every alteration or addition carried out. Each

Peatswood in 1910.

Black and White Farm House at Peatswood.

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must be an adaptation of the garden to life, and conduce to a closer intimacy between it and the dwellers in the house. Doubtless if this end were held more clearly in view we should have more in our garden of what is expressive and significant, less of what is incongruous and irrelevant. The success of such a project must depend in the long run on considerations having more to do with life than gardening; for the life that is to inspire a garden with interest and significance must begin by being interesting and significant itself."

So much for the objects which were kept in view. How far they have been attained is a question which must be left to the judicious observer to decide. The loggia, the pergola, the fountain, the belvedere, the smooth dry walk, and the evergreen rampart against cold winds—all are there. Those who like it can (in Walpole's words) "still be going up and down stairs in the open air," but no one is obliged to do so. The house now stands, like a cup in its saucer, upon a stone terrace as square and uncompromising as itself; but the severity of the lines is tempered by touches of ornament, furnished by old lead vases, wrought iron grilles, and a few statuettes. Every effort has been made to render the garden pleasant to live in; the site of the old farm being occupied by a broad green, suitable for bowls, croquet or lawn tennis. To this extent the garden is (as Sir William Temple has it) 'in some sort regular.'

But the teaching of the "natural" school has not been lost sight of. A sunk fence secures an uninterrupted view of the landscape outside the garden. The woods, rocks, and water, which Harriet Twemlow loved so well and sketched so often, remain as they were, and the place is innocent of anything like topiary work.

No professional designer has been employed, the plans have all been home-made, and the work has not been hurried. The efforts of the owner and his wife have been most ably seconded by Lewis Barlow, who has been gardener at Peatswood for 28 years, and takes the greatest pride and interest in his work.

3. Black and White Farm House, at Peatswood. An account has been given in Chapter IX. part 1, s. 4, of the old half-timbered house at Betchton, and how its bones were transported to Peatswood at the end of 1904. In the spring of 1905 a large empty hay barn was given up entirely to its old timbers, to enable them to be sorted and fitted together under cover. This was much like the solution of a Chinese puzzle with a great number of its pieces missing. However at last the original north side and the east gable end were put together, and the pattern of the timbering and sizes and positions of the windows well ascertained. The windows had been altered and enlarged in Queen Anne's time, with white mullions and transoms according to the fashion of that day. The mortices showing the size of the original windows still remained. These may have had projecting frames and diamond panes, like those in the Wilbraham almshouses at Nantwich, and like those at the Brook Farm at Betchton. Or they may have had flat frames and small oblong panes like those which still remain in other old houses at Betchton.

There were some very good floor beams with moulded edges, and an oak panelled door with J.T. 1709 on the handle plate. The initials stood for Josiah Twemlow, and I have already said[1] that this door was probably the front door of Josiah's brick addition.

1. In the first part of Chap. IX., under Betchton, S. 4.

Much of the timber was badly decayed, and some had been broken to pieces when the house was pulled down. This latter material served as a guide to the old methods of construction, but could not be used again. One old window frame remained intact and in good condition. It had been blocked up and sheltered from the weather. It now forms the dormer window of the bedroom over the house place. The mouldings on the inside edges of this window frame are similar to those in Shakespeare's house at Stratford-on-Avon, and seem to date from the first half of the 17th century at latest. The remains of the old lead glazing could also be traced, and the size of the panes ascertained.

Just when this collection of old material came to hand the question of building a bailiff's house for the Peatswood home farm became an urgent one. The want of one had been admitted so long ago as 1808; when the valuer of the property allowed £900 in his estimate for supplying the deficiency. But for nearly a century it was found possible to make shift without one; though the inconvenience had been much felt at times, more especially during the seven years that my father had the farm and lived at a distance. However in 1905 it was determined that a house should be built; and that it should as far as possible be a reproduction of the old house at Betchton. A compromise had to be made between architectural purism and modern convenience, the solution arrived at being as follows:

1. A plinth of brickwork was to be built under the timber framing, so as to give increased height to the rooms. This involved bringing the windows of the ground floor rooms lower down in the panels, otherwise they would have been much too high up.

2. Thatch was to be discarded; and stone roofing, which is largely used in the Elizabethan house at Old Moreton near Rode, and also on some of the old farm houses in Betchton itself, was to be adopted. It was felt that modern tiles or common slates would be quite out of keeping with the old timber work; and the drawbacks to thatch are too obvious to require to be stated.

3. Upon the brick plinth the old oak framing was to be erected, and "nogged" in with brickwork. Inside the "nogging," and two inches from it, a brick wall 4½ inches thick was to be built, the intervening space serving to convey air to the backs of the timbers, and prevent dry-rot, and also to prevent the inner wall from becoming damp. The outer brick "nogging" and the inside wall were to be bonded together with "header" bricks 11 inches long. The whole of the timber work was to be treated with carbolenium, a strong antiseptic, and linseed oil. Stockholm tar was also to be freely used on the back of the oak framing, and a damp course of felt put between it and the brick plinth.

The white panels between the timbers were to be of cement not plaster, and whitened with a mixture of duresco and stone-hardening solution—so as to give them the maximum of durability.

4. The two outer sides of the old L. plan were to be turned towards the drive and timbered. The two inner sides were to be of brickwork, but the bricks were to be thin ones, and string courses and arches like those in the Queen Anne addition at Betchton were to be used. The large chimney stacks at the two

extremities of the L. were to be arranged so as to conceal the break of style between the timber and the brick portions, and the difference in the slope of the roof towards the front and the back. This difference is necessary in order to get head room in the upstairs passage. It was also found necessary to put the middle chimney out of the centre of the ridge of the roof, first to keep the fireplaces away from the doors, secondly to make the old ceiling beams of the parlour fit in, they being of different lengths, and thirdly in order to secure a clear and unobstructed passage in the roof from one end of the house to the other. (The original north side of the house now faces south-west, and the gable which formerly faced east now points to the north-west). The old house had a chimney at this point in 1904, but it was not original. The two big external chimney stacks were the only ones that the house had in the 17th century. Our ancestors did not multiply chimneys unnecessarily; first of all because in the days before coal was used fuel was scarce; and secondly because from 1662 there was a tax upon every hearth. The parlour had no chimney, and must have been warmed by a charcoal stove.[1] The old division between it and the houseplace was of timber and plaster; and its situation is marked in the outside wall by the post which has two diagonal struts at its base to give it extra support.

5. The south elevation was to be as simple and unobtrusive as possible, without any gable or other prominent feature. A scullery was to be built out on this side, with a bedroom over it, and a dairy adjoining it.

6. The old porch and door at the corner of the houseplace were to be reproduced: but another front door entering into a passage was to be provided for general use. The old kitchen door of 1709 was to be cleaned and repaired, and put back where it had been: but a new back door was to be made on the south side, leading into the scullery. So that the two old entrances were kept for show, and two new ones made for use.

7. The windows on the front side were to be leaded, and the frames were to be moulded internally to match the one surviving old one. But care was to be taken to make them weather tight: and they were also to be somewhat larger than the old windows, so as to admit more light and air.

The windows in the red-brick part were to be of wood, and some of them sash windows. Windows were put in to light the chimney corners.

8. The upstairs windows over the kitchen wing, which had been almost on the floor level of the old cheese-room and box-room, were to remain in their places. But the floors of the two little rooms, which they were to light, were to be lowered two feet, so as to make the windows come higher up in the wall. To enable this to be done, the larder underneath them was to be sunk in the ground, and made a half-way house to the cellar. The upstairs rooms were to be entered from a half landing on the staircase, three steps below the ordinary bed room floor level.

9. The floors of the house place and parlour were to be of hard maple blocks, set on concrete and laid in black asphalte.

1. In Josiah's Inventory of 1728, a "furnace" is mentioned.

10. The chimney stacks were to be very plain like the old ones, but massive (being nine inches thick all round), and gathered in from the inglenooks with courses of sloping bricks. They were to be arranged to contain ventilating and steam shafts as well as smoke flues; and to be finished at the top with solid flag stones.

11. The deal timbers were to be very strong, the rafters to carry the stone roof four-and-a-half inches by three, and the purlins strengthened by having a steel joist sandwiched into them.

12. Four of the old oak beams that were sound were to be used for the ceiling of the parlour and kitchen and the inglenook of the houseplace. Three others that were perished were to be replaced by others of the same kind (from an old house at Day Green near Betchton) in the ceiling of the houseplace and over the inglenook of the kitchen. Many of the outside timbers were to be replaced with others, but not with new wood only old oak, most of it 250 years old, from demolished houses in Drayton and elsewhere.

13. Various doors and windows that had been taken out of Peatswood during the alterations of 1903-4 were to be used up. But the only one of any interest is an oak raised-panel door dating from the eighteenth century; which (from the fact of its having had a knocker upon it) I take to have been Sir James Markham's front door. This was set aside to form the new front door; and an old Jacobean oak door from Weston Hall was to form the inner door of the timber porch; the outer door of that porch being copied from one in Kettle's house at Betchton, which also supplied the pattern of the staircase balustrade, the date of the originals being 1639.

The foundation was laid in September 1905; and the house finished by Michaelmas 1906. Great difficulty was experienced in adapting the old oak, which was very hard and full of nails. The long oak handrail at the top of the stairs was originally a purlin; and the marks can be seen upon it where the oak pegs an inch in diameter, which fastened down the rafters, were driven into it. Similar shifts had to be resorted to elsewhere.

Two diamond paned lead lights which I found at the Brook House at Arclyd, and which had evidently come from the older house there, have been repaired and used in the larder.

The £900 allotted for the work in 1808 proved insufficient; but the cost, including the sewer and sewage disposal tank, did not much exceed £1,200, a not unreasonable amount under the circumstances.

All new material was of the best; and the outlay on skilled labour was also heavy, it being far more troublesome to work up old material than to use new.

The object of providing a comfortable and convenient house for the bailiff and his family has certainly been effected. It is for the judicious critic to say how far the ulterior object, that of preserving for future generations an interesting family relic, has been gained.

4. Outlying Portions of the Peatswood Estate in 1909. There are at present only two detached properties belonging to Peatswood. (1) An estate of three farms lying together in a ring fence. Two of these farms form the township of Weston-in-Edge[1] in the parish of Standon; the third, now known as "Swinchurch" but anciently "Swineshead," is in Chapel Chorlton an outlying township of the parish of Eccleshall. This land is of course in Staffordshire. (2) The other property is a farm at Alsager in Cheshire, known as the Manor Farm.

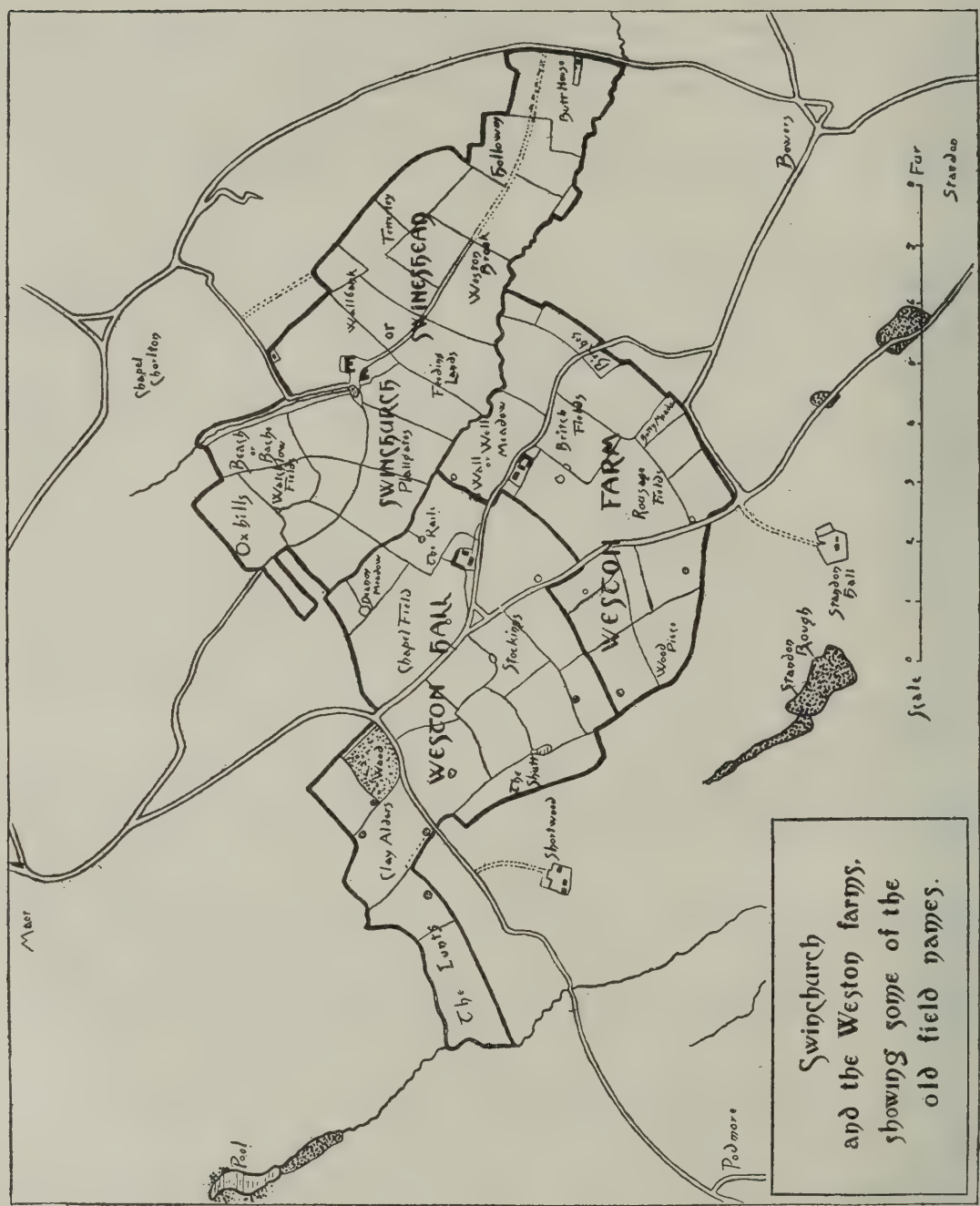
Weston is in Domesday; it was owned in Saxon times by Godwin, and after the conquest by Briend or Brian, who held it from Robert de Stadford (Stafford). It then contained one virgate and two plough lands and 120 acres of wood, and was worth £1.[2] At present the wood upon it is only between 7 and 8 acres; but the field names supply abundant evidence of ancient clearings. For instance, "Britch" or "Birch" fields are only found on the outskirts of old forests and wastes.[3] The word means newly enclosed or broken up ground; and we have already met with the "Bryers-Birches" near Peatswood. There are seven fields at Weston called "Britch" or "Birch" on the map of 1760. And there are three "Stockings," two "Lunts," one "Woodpiece," and two "Clay-alders."

Rev. Edward Salt in his "History of Standon" published in 1888 tells us that from Briend or Brian Weston passed to the de Standons who may have been his descendants, and from them to the de Chetwynds whose heiress married Sir Richard Peshall.[4] About Henry VI.'s reign the Peshall heiress married Thomas Grosvenor, whose great grandson Randolf sold it to Francis Roos. The same authority mentions a William de Weston chaplain[5] as living in 1325, and a Thomas de Weston chaplain in 1356. I do not know whether there ever was a chapel at Weston; there is a "Chapel Field" on the hall farm.

In 1361 Richard de Peshale knight is called "Lord of Weston"[6] and in an extract from a mutilated court roll of 1422 given by Mr. Salt, "the Lord of Weston"[7] is referred to. But Briend held both Weston and Standon at the time of Domesday, and they seem to have gone together as one manor ever since.

Francis Roos married Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Skrymsher,[8] the purchaser in 1533 of one third of Tyrley Manor; and John Iremonger the seneschal or steward of Tyrley Manor, was also steward of Standon Manor. He seems to have been a Standon man,[9] and the name frequently occurs in the parish registers. Also in the Staffordshire Inq. p.m. of Ralph Nevill of Oversley, dated 28th August 36 Hen. VI. (1458), John Iremonger was one of the jury.[10]

1. This name occurs in a lease of 1807. I have not met with it elsewhere, nor do I know the meaning of it. Duignan says that there are sixty-five Westons in Domesday.
2. Eyton's Staffordshire Domesday Tables VI. and VII.
3. Notes on Staffordshire place names, by W. H. Duignan, p. 15
4. Salt's Standon, 33, 34, 31.
5. Ibid, 153.
6. Ibid, 78.
7. Ibid, 85.
8. Ibid, 159.
9. The muster roll of 1539, Salt Collection, Vol. V. (new series), seems to show that he lived at Rudge, a part of Standon parish, near Ashley.
10. Inq. p.m. No. 21, 36 Hen. VI. Pub. Rec. Office.


Swinchurch
and the Weston farms,
showing some of the
old field names.
SWINESHEAD
or
SWINCHURCH
WESTON FARM
WESTON HALL
Chapel Chorlton
Oxhills
Beach or Bache
Walchlow Fields
Phillpates
Wallbank
Tetterley
Weston Brook
Holloway
Butt House
Feeding Lands
Wall or Well Meadow
Britch Fields
Rousage Fields
Bowers
Standon Hall
Standon Rough
Wood Piece
Stockings
The Shutt
Shortwood
Chapel Field
Deanon Meadow
The Kaile
Clay Alders
Wood
The Lunts
Pool
Podmore
Maer
Scale
Fur
Standon

FIELD NAMES.

SWINCHURCH, or SWINESHEAD.

Oxhills.
Beach, or Bache—slope.
Watchlow field.
Platt gates—small bridge over the brook.
Wall bank—bank with spring.
Fetterley.
Holloway.
Feeding land—rich land for feeding bullocks.
Weston Brook.

WESTON HALL.

The Lunts—a Norse word meaning wood.
Clay Alders, also Clay holders.
The Shutt—shot, *i.e.*, a plot of land in the open field, sometimes a square furlong.
Deanoy Meadow.
The Rails—springs of water.
Stockings—clearings.

WESTON FARM.

Wall meadow—well meadow.
Britch fields—clearings.
Birches—same as the last.
Rousage fields—an old name of obscure meaning.
Butty meadow—ridged and furrowed.
Wood piece.

Francis Roos owned Swineshead as well as Weston, and seems to have been a well-to-do man; but his grandson Gilbert Roos was a spendthrift and dissipated everything.[1] His lands both in Staffordshire and Notts were acquired by the Broughtons; who were his cousins, his Aunt Mary, daughter of Francis Roos having married Thomas Broughton.[2] In this family Weston remained till 1778, when the Rev. Sir Thomas Broughton, having obtained an act of parliament authorising him to sell some of his outlying Staffordshire estates in order to buy land in Cheshire, sold Weston to my great grandfather Thomas Twemlow and his brother George, a moiety to each. At that time there were two farm houses and no other dwellings in the township, as is the case at the present time.

In the survey of Sir Brian Broughton's estate made by J. Probert in 1760 Weston Hall is called the "demesne."[3]

The other tenement is called "Weston Farm," which seems to be its proper name. On the ordnance map of the present day it is called "the old house," and in a lease of 1807 it is called the "old farm." But these names probably only go back to the end of the 18th or beginning of the 19th century, at which time Weston Hall had been rebuilt in brick, while the house at Weston Farm remained of timber and plaster. The latter was rebuilt in 1820, as recorded by a stone on the front of it.

The area of Weston Hall remains the same as in 1760, except that the grazing land on the other side of the brook, which was then held with it now goes with Swinchurch.

Weston Farm also remains the same, except that in 1831 two fields called the "Birches" were bought from John Key and added to it.

I do not know who this John Key was, but the connexion between the Key family and Standon parish is of considerable antiquity. The name occurs in the parish register of 1643.[4]

William Key was tenant of Weston Farm in 1731; and in 1807 Matthew Key was there and James Key at the Hall, the rents being then considerably higher than they are at present.[5]

James Key died in October 1834, and the Hall Farm was carried on for a time by his executors, Edward Key and George Harding.

Afterwards Thomas Key, who was I think a younger son of James Key, became tenant and remained so till 1888 when he retired. He was still living in 1907 over 96 years of age. The son who seemed likely to succeed him was accidentally killed by a fall from his horse. So the long connection of the Keys with Weston came to an end at that time. Percy Matthews was the next tenant, and left in 1894. His successor was Charles Frederick Hobson, the present tenant.

1. Salt's Standon, p. 34.
2. Kimber and Johnson's Baronetage, p. 184, Vol. II.
3. This Survey and Valuation bears out M. Mantoux's assertion that improved estate management began to be general about 1760. (P. 36.)
4. Salt's History of Standon.
5. Papers at Peatswood.

At the other farm, Matthew Key was followed by Thomas Key in 1830. He remained there till 1866, when there was trouble and litigation and he left. Thomas Woolf came next, but at the end of 1874 he made way for William Basford, who quitted at Lady Day 1879, when the farm was taken by Francis and Richard Timmis, who handed it over to their elder brother Thomas Sutton Timmis the present tenant at the end of 1893.

Weston Hall is a solid brick house consisting of a centre three stories high, in which are the houseplace, kitchen, &c.; flanked by two wings two stories high. The eastern wing contains the two parlours, and the western one the dairy and press house. It was apparently added to and re-arranged after the purchase of 1778; but the oak beams of the houseplace and the nail studded back door are much older than that. Perhaps a good deal of the older house was left standing, and was encased in brickwork. Some oak panelling of the time of James I. or Charles I. which was in this house and covered with drab paint, was in 1897 removed to Peatswood and used in my bedroom.

George and Thomas Twemlow built the block of farm buildings which adjoins the road in 1798, and recorded the fact upon a stone. But Probert's map shows that there was a building upon the same site in 1760. George and Thomas may also have built some of the cowhouses; but the barn with its bays, now converted into cowtying, seems to have been there in 1760. My father made some improvements between 1872 and 1879; and in 1886 a fire destroyed the old barn, and a further re-arrangement took place, the cows being housed in one yard, and the carts and horses in the other, and the manure heap and pigstyes removed to a more respectful and sanitary distance from the house. The cowsheds were also extended, but Mr. Hobson still considers them inadequate, as he thinks that the farm should carry 80 milking cows besides other stock.

The house at Weston Farm was rebuilt in 1820; but some of the features of the older house are retained, notably the huge chimney stack between the houseplace and parlour, which comes opposite to the front door. The walls of the dairy also are older than 1820, but a new roof was put upon this part in 1904. About the same time new stairs were put in and various minor improvements carried out, chiefly at the back of the house. The roof of 1820 was renewed in 1909.

Probert's map of 1760 shows that at that date the arrangements of the farm-buildings and garden were very different from what they are now.

The third farm, "Swinchurch,"[1] or "Swineshead," was also in Domesday. Mr. Duignan is in doubt whether the first syllable is derived from swine or from some proper name, such as "Sigewine," contracted to "Siwine," and "Swine."[2]

[3]In Saxon times, it belonged to the see of Lichfield, but in 1085, after the conquest, the bishop's seat was removed to Chester. [4]In Domesday accordingly SUESNESHED is entered as belonging to the bishop of Chester. It then contained four plough lands.

1. Of the origin of the name "Swinchurch" I know nothing.
2. Staffordshire place names, p. 147.
3. Winkle's "Cathedrals," Vol. III., p. 3.
4. Eyton's Staffordshire Domesday (1881), Table VI.

In 12th and 13th Edward I. (1284) it was again held by the bishop of Lichfield, Roger Moland or Meuland, who let it to his nephew Roger de Napton, who is claimed as their ancestor by the Broughtons.[1]

But whether this family maintained an unbroken connection with Swineshead from this time, or whether they obtained it with Weston from Gilbert de Roos, I do not know.

It was certainly Broughton property in the 18th century, and Sir Thomas did not sell it till early in the 19th. John Adderley, who was then the tenant, purchased one moiety in 1807 and the other in 1810. This John Adderley seems to have been the son of Edward and Mary Adderley the tenants of Weston Hall in 1760, and to have been christened at Standon in 1738.[2] Edward Adderley appears on the Standon Court Rolls so early as 1731[3]; but Thomas Nevill seems to have been then tenant of Weston Hall. Edward Adderley held land in Chorlton in 1739[4]; but he was not tenant of Swineshead in 1760, William North being there at that time.[5]

John Adderley's daughter and heiress married Hugh Brittain in 1819. She died in 1857 and her husband in 1874. They had no children, and in November of the latter year the farm was bought by my father: and in the course of the next two years he also bought some fields belonging to George Dix and Cecilia Brittain, which were interlaced with it.

The present house is not interesting, and has a cemented front. The kitchen part is the oldest; the parlour end was added by Mrs. Brittain, who lived in it. There were in fact two separate houses under one roof till my father cut doorways and connected them in 1876.

The old farm buildings stood in a hole near the pond. My father pulled them down and built new ones higher up the hill side. A great quantity of earth had to be removed in order to obtain a level site, and the hollow where the old buildings had stood was filled up. My father took great interest in the work, and it was very well done. He left the old pigstyes standing; and poor as they were they did duty for another 30 years. In 1905 they were superseded by new ones, capable of housing 100 pigs, and built on a lower level so that the whey could run down to them in a pipe.

My father built two new cottages, and bought and repaired a third one known as the "Butt House," at the end of the farm nearest to Hatton.

The survey of 1760 shows a large proportion of arable land, but at the present time the bulk of the acreage of all three farms is under grass.

The land is rather strong, and suitable for cheese making, more especially in dry years.

In 1898, owing to deep borings at Hatton and at the Standon Boys' Home, the wells of all three farms ceased to afford a sufficient water supply. A strong spring on Weston, in a field called from it the "Wall" or "Well" meadow,

1. Kimber & Johnson's Baronetage (1771), Vol. II., p. 182.
2. Salt's History of Standon, p. 259.
3. Salt's Standon, pp. 129, 130, and 133.
4. Salt, p. 136.
5. Probert's Survey.

remaining unaffected, it was found possible to supply the whole estate from this by means of a water wheel and pump, worked by the brook that divides Weston from Swinchurch. This was completed in 1899.

The earlier history of these farms which has been given here is only imperfect and fragmentary. In ancient times the land was much more sub-divided than at present. There seems to have been two "halls"[1] at Weston; and the Subsidy Roll of 1327 gives a list of eleven property owners there.[2] The transactions which have been noted probably only affected portions of the land.

The names which the fields had in 1760 are all recorded, except those of one or two of the recent purchases; and some of them are curious.

The "Watch Low" field on Swinchurch farm, seems to take us back to the days when the coigns of vantage in this neighbourhood were held by a line of outposts, which included "War Hill," "Camp Hill," and the "Berth."

The fields at the south-east end of Weston farm are known as the "Rousages." The Standon Court Roll of 1338 has an entry about the hedges of "Rousiche."[3] And in 1616 these same hedges again required attention; and an "Auncyent[4] Mere" is three times mentioned in connection with them, which may have been in the hollow between the Rousages and the "Britch Fields," which is called the "Butty Meadow" in the map of 1760.

The Rysich Lane is mentioned in the Standon Court Roll of 1739[5]; but the meaning of the word is very obscure. According to the dialect dictionary there is a Shropshire word "Rouse"[6] which means "Rubbish." It also seems possible that the word might be connected with the French "Roseau," a reed.

1. Salt's Standon, 160.
2. Ibid, p. 55.
3. Salt's Standon, 66.
4. Ibid, p. 103.
5. Ibid, 136.
6. Wright's English Dialect Dictionary, 1898-1905.

THE MANOR FARM, ALSAGER. This was once Wilbraham property, and was in 1755 settled by the Counsellor upon his elder son Richard on the marriage of the latter with Mary Bootle.[1]

Of its early history I am not quite certain; but I think it was probably bought by the Counsellor not long before he settled it upon his son, but it is possible that he may have inherited it from his grandfather. In 1755 the Counsellor had four farms in Alsager, viz.: Cresswellshawe, the Hole House, Galleys or the Lane-end, and the Heath-house now known as the Manor Farm.[2]

As to these, Galleys had been bought by him from Lord Cholmondeley in 1746, and the Hole House he had inherited under his father's will.[3] Under that will he had also inherited a farm known as Brereton's tenement, which may have been the Heath House, but was more probably Cresswellshawe which is still part of the Rode estate. It was purchased by Roger Wilbraham from Lord Brereton in 1668, the year before he bought Rode from Randle Rode. Brereton's tenement was in 1664 leased by Lord Brereton to Randle Brereton for three lives at a rent of £4 a year, two fat capons at Easter, a dish of apples at Michaelmas, six days' carting or eighteen shillings in money, the keeping of a dog, and a heriot of £6 at death.[4] This lease was renewed by Roger Wilbraham in 1688, and again by his son Randle in 1714.

In 1749 this lease was held by John Salt Esq. of Betley; and he then surrendered it to the Counsellor in consideration of £320, which was £40 more than the fine originally paid to his father in 1714. The Cresswellshawe[5] farm—whether Brereton's tenement or not—was held by James Morris 1785-1805, and afterwards by Charles Edwards. In 1827 my grandfather Randle Wilbraham conveyed it to his eldest son Randle; to qualify him to become a justice of the peace, and to give him a vote for the county. The latter in the early sixties gave part of it to his younger brother Frank Wilbraham, who built a house upon it and lived there till his death in 1900. And his widow still lives there.

If the Heath House was not Brereton's tenement, then I have found no record of how the Counsellor came to be possessed of it in 1755. Probably he purchased it.

In 1783 John Morris was the tenant paying £47 5s. 0d. rent for it, and he was still there in 1798 when the land tax upon it was redeemed, and it is described in the contract as containing 56 acres.[6] Subsequently it was enlarged by enclosures from Alsager Heath; so that in 1814, when it was sold by my grandfather Randle Wilbraham to Thomas Twemlow of Alsager, it was computed to contain 83 acres. At the present time its area is 99¼ acres. Two of the pieces of heath ground attached to it are called the "Big Manor" and the "Pit

1. Abstract of Title at Peatswood.
2. Papers at Rode.
3. Randle Wilbraham's Will, made in 1731.
4. Wilbraham M.S.S., at Delamere and Rode.
5. Papers at Rode
6. Papers at Rode

Manor,"[1] and from these the farm most likely gets its modern name. It is probably an ancient tenement, though the present house is quite modern, and the farm buildings comparatively so.

Thomas Twemlow the purchaser was a younger son of John Twemlow of Hatherton.[2] He owned the Elms Farms in Balterley, which had been in his family since 1748; but he himself lived at Alsager, and his son John at the Elms.

He made his will in 1816, leaving his Alsager Farm in moieties between his daughters Sarah and Ann for their lives only, and afterwards to his son Thomas. The Elms he left to his son John. In 1848 Thomas Twemlow of Balterley owned the Alsager farm and mortgaged it for £600.[3]

In 1854 this Thomas Twemlow made his will, and left his real estate (failing issue of his son, who was insane) to John Twemlow of Hatherton and to Mary Ann Mottram, (who was John Twemlow of Hatherton's sister) as tenants in common. He died in 1855.

In 1860 John Twemlow of Hatherton died, leaving his moiety of his real estates to my Uncle Thomas Fletcher Twemlow for life, and afterwards to my father Francis Cradock Twemlow in tail.

In 1874 Mrs. Mottram died, leaving her moiety to my aforesaid uncle absolutely.

After the death of my uncle in 1894, my half share came into possession.

The property then consisted of the Elms Farm at Balterley, the Manor Farm at Alsager, and some land at Hartford near Northwich.

In 1903 the Hartford land was sold, and the proceeds divided between the devises under my uncle's will and myself. At the same time an arrangement was come to, whereby I obtained the whole of the Alsager Farm, and gave up my half of the Elms.

I am very grateful to John Twemlow of Hatherton for leaving his property to my father; but I have not been able to find out that there was any tie of blood between them.

A pedigree is appended, showing the relationships between the Twemlows of Hatherton, Alsager (Manor Farm), and Balterley (The Elms), so far as I have been able to arrive at them.

John Twemlow of Hatherton recorded his pedigree at the Heralds' College in 1842. 14 D: 14 pp: 216 and 225. John Twemlow's house is at the present time known as Broomlands.

1. These names do not occur in the Tithe Commutation List of 1840, where these fields are called "Near Heath" and "Far Heath."
2. See pedigree.
3. Title Deeds at Peatswood.

PEDIGREE OF THE TWEMLOWS,

OF HATHERTON AND ALSAGER, Co. CHESTER. From the Wills and Title Deeds, Hadfield M.S. at Stafford, Old Pictures, &c. December, 1908.

Father unknown, but not William son of George and Mary Twemlow of Arclyd.

- 1st wife mentioned in Will. Martha Somerfield, of Shavington and Weston Hall, m. at Wybunbury 5th, Dec. 1728, bur. there 15th Oct. 1730.
- = John Twemlow, of Hatherton, Co. Chester, d. 29th Nov. 1762, aged 62. Will at Chester.
  - = 2nd wife, Mary living 1762.
  - Thomas Twemlow, living 1762, executor of his brother's Will.

- William Twemlow, of Hatherton, b. 11th Jan. 1734, d. 1807, aged 73.
  - = Phoebe Tomlinson, b. 6th Aug. 1731, d. 21st July 1806, aged 74. Mar. at Wrenbury, 1762–3.
- Thomas Twemlow, of Alsager, Co. Chester. Purchased the Manor Farm at Alsager 1814. Will dated 16th Aug. 1816; b. 4th Mar. 1744, bur. Barthomley.
  - = Jane Booth, dau. of John Booth, of Audley, Co. Staff. Mar. 1778, d. 27th May 1806, bur. Barthomley.
- John Twemlow.
- James Twemlow.
- George Twemlow.
- Richard Twemlow.
- Ann Twemlow, m. John Corn.
- Elizabeth Twemlow.
- Margaret Twemlow.
- Sarah Twemlow.

- William Twemlow, of Hatherton, Surgeon, b. 9th Dec. 1770, d. 7th June 1843.
  - = Mary Anne Pickering, dau. of Peter and Mary Pickering, b. 16th Feb. 1777, m. 1794, d. 1st Aug. 1812.
- John Twemlow, of the Elms, Balterley, Devisee in his father's Will of the Elms.
  - = Margaret Wrench, dau. of John Wrench, of Hartford Ct., Chester.
- Thomas Twemlow, of Alsager, b. at Alsager 1777. Devisee under his father's Will of the Manor Farm, of Hatherton, in 1854, d. 12th May 1855, bur. at Alsager. Will.
  - = Mary Morris, dau. of James Morris, of Cresswellshawe, near Alsager.

- John Twemlow, of Hatherton, Surgeon, b. 1796, d. Mar. 1860. Devisee of a moiety of the Manor Farm under his cousin's Will of 1854.
  - = Mary Ann, b. 4th Dec. 1802, living 1860.
- William, b. 27th June 1799, d. 5th Mar. 1822.
- Mary Ann Twemlow, m. April 1839. Devisee of a moiety of the Manor Farm under her cousin's Will of 1854; d. 19th March 1874.
  - = John Mottrain, living 1859, dead in. 1874.
- Thomas Twemlow, b. 1809 (? dead in 1854).
- George, b. 1811 (? dead 1854).
- James, b. 1813, living 1854, dead in 1860.

6.—BETLEY COURT.

[1]Betley Court, which became my grandfather's home in 1814, owes its existence to John Cradock, born 1686, died 1758. This John Cradock was the sixth in succession from father to son of the same name; and he had a son, a seventh John Cradock, who died unmarried in 1746, when this remarkable sequence came to an end.

There was an ancient family of Cradock at Nantwich; one of whom, Sir David Cradock, held land there in 1371,[2]and was one of the founders of the church. His monument is no longer in existence, but descriptions of it and of its heraldry remain.[3] The Cradocks of Stafford and Caverswall proved their descent from the Nantwich Cradocks to the satisfaction of the heralds in 1614.[4] And our John Cradock, who was a keen genealogist and scribe, made efforts in the same direction about a century later.[5] He worked his pedigree back to a marriage in 1551; but he does not seem to have established the desired connection. However, he thought himself justified in assuming it, and in placing the ancient coat of arms on the front of his new house at Betley.[6]

The marriage of 1551, which has been referred to, was solemnized at Ashley Co. Stafford, on 20th May. The parties to it were John Cradock of Hungersheath in Ashley parish, and Alice Lovat; and I will return to their issue by and by.

It seems quite certain that the bridegroom's father was William Cradock of Hungersheath, who appears on the muster roll of 1539 with horse and armour.[7] He also appears on the subsidy roll of 1542[8] (33 Hen. VIII.), along with his father William Cradock the elder, the contribution of each of them being fixed at ten shillings. He was also churchwarden of Ashley in 1553, and rendered an account of church plate, etc. belonging to the parish.[9] He was buried at Ashley 14th June 1576; and Margaret Cradock, who seems to have been his widow, was buried there 2nd February 1585. The will of this William Cradock is not to be found; but that of his father, the elder William who died in 1545, is at Lichfield, and an abstract of it is given in Appendix G. ii.

There can, I think, be little doubt that this man was a cadet of that branch of the Cradock family which settled at Stafford in the reign of Henry VI.; but I have been unable to assign him his place in the pedigree of 1614.

An elaborate pedigree of the Cradock family is given in "Davy's Suffolk Collections," British Museum, additional M.S. 19125; but the authorities are not given.[10] It agrees with the pedigree drawn by the heralds in 1614, but gives much additional information. From this it appears that John Cradock, who was

1. The information contained in this article is almost entirely derived from M.S.S. belonging to Rev. Sir George Boughey, of Aqualate, March 1909.
2. Hall's History of Nantwich, pp. 5, 83.
3. Hall, 284-7, Gent. Magazine for 1805, Vol. II., p. 706.
4. W. Salt Collection of 1884, Vol. V., Part II.
5. A copy of the pedigree, of 1614, is amongst John Cradock's papers at Aqualate.
6. Argent on a chevron azure three garbs or Crest, a lamb's head. The lamb's head has got changed into a bear's at Betley.
7. Salt Collections, Vol. V. (New Series), 284.
8. Pub. Record Office, 1/7/113.
9. Hutchinson's Archdeaconry of Stoke-on-Trent, 169.
10. Davy wrote about the beginning of the 19th century, and is considered to be accurate.

brother of Sir Miles Cradock, knight, of Nantwich, and was living in 1446, having killed a man, fled to France. Afterwards, he received a pardon and came to live at Stafford. His son John died in 1471 leaving a son Richard whose will (made 29th September 1503, and proved 10th March following) is at Somerset House.[1] Richard had land at Stourbridge, Stafford and elsewhere; and he mentions his wife Margery, his sons William, Richard[2] and Thomas,[3] and his daughters Margerie, Cecily and Alice. I hoped to be able to prove that his son William was identical with William Cradock the elder of Hungersheath; but apparently that was not so, for according to Davy, Richard's son William became a doctor of civil laws, and died childless in 1530. The case of the Cradocks of Ashley is therefore similar to that of the Twemlows of Betchton;[4] a chasm divides them from their ancestors of the 15th century, their christian names however, lending great probability to the conjecture that they belonged to the ancient land-owning stock. Moreover the elder William of Hungersheath, though not rich and not an owner of land, only a yeoman leaseholder, shows signs of respectable origin. He had silver spoons and linen sheets, and his executors, overseers, etc. were drawn from the neighbouring gentry and clergy.

His will also mentions various relatives, as to whom I have been unable to find out anything; but they may perhaps furnish a clue to a future enquirer. I have not found the burial of his widow Agnes. Probably she died between the date of the will and the year 1551, when the Ashley registers begin.

The younger William Cradock of Hungersheath had, besides his son John, another son Richard, who lived at Longnor in the parish of Bradeley Co.Stafford, whose will dated 1st December 1604 is at Lichfield, and who is referred to in the postscript of the letter which is given in the Appendix G.i.

I now return to the progeny of John Cradock and Elizabeth Lovat. They had three daughters, Margaret, Alice, and Margery; and two sons, Edward, the heir, baptised 5th February 1561, and John, baptised 21st May 1570.[5] This second John married Francis, daughter of John and Ann Parker, of the Wood, Halmerend, in Audley parish; the wedding taking place at Stone, 28th April 1603. And the Audley register records that 24th September 1604, John his son was baptised and Francis his wife was buried. John afterwards married Joan Bloore, of Leek, and had by her a son Edward and several daughters, but with these we are not concerned.

The third John Cradock inherited from his mother's family the property at Halmerend. He married 16th July 1625, at Audley, Ann daughter of Randal Whitehall, of Bignall Hill, in Audley parish, by his second wife Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Colton, of Grobers Ash, near Silverdale. By her he had a son, John, baptised 24th December 1626, and eight other children. He died intestate, and was buried at Audley, 19th March 1645, and his widow died 6th October 1685.

1. Vol., "Holgrave," 14.
2. Davy says that Richard was a citizen of London.
3. Thomas was the ancestor of the Cradocks who were at Stafford in Queen Elizabeth's reign. He had a son, Thomas, of Calais, a wool merchant.
4. See page 12.
5. Alice Cradock died in May 1572, and her husband in Nov. 1593. The Will of the latter has perished; but the Act book records that his executors were his son John and his brother Richard.

The fourth John Cradock succeeded his father and married 14th February 1650 Margaret daughter of Thomas Lovatt, of Eardley End, in Audley parish, by his wife Margaret, daughter of John Eardley, of Halmerend.[1] Margaret Lovatt was born 28th October 1620. Her elder sister Katherine married Richard Boughey. Her brother Thomas, of Eardley End, who died a bachelor in 1673, competed against Roger Wilbraham for the Rode Estate in 1669. (See Chapter IX. under "Betchton.") From this marriage resulted a son, John, born 19th January 1657, and four daughters, three of whom married.

This fourth John was a prosperous man, and acquired a good deal of property. He had a farm at Rode from his brother-in-law, Thomas Lovatt; and he bought Saxon's House at Betley, where his grandson afterwards settled. Kelsall gives a list of other lands that he bought; and his grandson tells us that he built a new house at Halmerend in 1645.[2] His wife Margaret died 18th March 1687, and he himself 27th March 1705. They are both buried at Audley, and John's will is at Lichfield.

The fifth John Cradock, also of Halmerend, married 11th August 1683, at Madeley, Co. Stafford, Theophila, daughter of James Bayley, of Madeley, and of his second wife Elizabeth Parker, of Wistaston, Co. Chester. And they had a son John, baptised 24th May 1686, and two other sons who both died bachelors, James in 1715, and Thomas in 1762; and six daughters, Elizabeth, born 28th November 1684, Margaret, born 23rd February 1688, Mary, born 9th August 1692, Theophila, born 21st November 1694, Ann, born 12th April 1697, and Catherine, born 13th June 1699. Five of these daughters married; but it is sufficient for us to remember (1) that Elizabeth married George Boughey, and was the mother of the George Boughey who, dying in 1788, conferred upon the present family of Aqualate his possessions and his name; and (2) that Ann married Thomas Fenton, Recorder of Newcastle, and was the mother of John Fenton, who, as husband of Anastasia Cradock, comes into our story later on.

The fifth John died 9th September 1721, and his widow Theophila 3rd February 1743; they are buried at Audley, and John's will is at Lichfield.

The sixth John Cradock, as we learn from one of his memorandum books at Aqualate,[3] went to live at Betley, 25th June 1711, and built his house in 1716. He practised as a solicitor, and his brother Thomas did the same at Nantwich; both brothers were successful and acquired property. John seems to have been decidedly ambitious; he was proud of the position which he had inherited, and determined to rise still higher in the social scale.

After succeeding to his father's property, he lost no time in providing himself with a wife, and in September 1722 he married Anastasia[4] Abnett, whose parents, Charles and Sarah, had lived at Shiffnal Manor, Co. Salop, where she was born 10th February 1689. In 1722 they were no longer living there, and

1. Kelsall, who married a daughter of this John Cradock, gives these particulars. But I have not found the entry in any register.
2. The present Halmerend Hall is of brick, dating mostly from the first half of the 19th century. In the kitchen, however, are some very finely moulded oak beams, probably dating from 1645.
3. This book, which contains mostly law accounts, is marked outside with a capital A in black letter. The entry in question is at the beginning, and at the end are some building accounts.
4. Anastasia was baptised at Shiffnal, 21st February, 1689, and her sister Mary, 15th May 1693.

Charles was then dead. The marriage settlement, dated 24th September 1722, described Anastasia as "late of Idsall, alias Shiffnal, and now of Beckbury, Co. Salop." The marriage did not take place at Beckbury nor at Shiffnal, and where and when it was solemnised I do not know. Sarah Abnett, the mother, died 9th February 1729. Both she and her husband were buried at St. Mary's, Stafford.

The will of Charles Abnett is at Lichfield. It was made 23rd February and proved 23rd April 1707. He mentions his wife Sarah, his daughters Anastasia and Mary, and his brother William. He had property at Cannock, Rugeley, and Stafford. The will is sealed with an eagle displayed. Shiffnal Manor, the principal house on Lord Stafford's Shropshire property, is an interesting old place. It stands on a commanding site overlooking a small valley, and is evidently of considerable antiquity.

The Abnetts were an old Audley family; Kelsall says they were there in 1539. The will of Alice Abnett, of Audley, widow, dated 1524, is at Lichfield. They are mentioned in the herald's visitations of 1614[1] and 1664. On the former occasion it is noted that they sealed with an eagle displayed, but had not proved their right to it. The valuation of Audley parish made in 1701 shows that Mr. Abnett had then a good estate at Eardley End[2]; but 10th January 1710 he sold it to Robert Whitney, of Coole, in the parish of Wrenbury, Cheshire; and in 1714 he is described as "William Abnett, late of Eardley End and now of Stafford."[3] From Kelsall's notes on the Abnett family it appears that Thomas Abnett, of Audley, born 1589, died 1671, married Margery Doughty, at Madeley, in 1615, and had three sons, William his heir, Thomas of Stafford, and John of Nantwich. The second son, Thomas, is referred to in the following curious entry in the Register of St. Mary's, Stafford. "Mr. Thomas Abnett, of Maries, in Stafford, and Mrs. Mary Hurdman, of Coton, in the parish of (St. Mary,) were married in Stafford by Matthew Worswick, Mayor of Stafford, upon the 16th day of February 1655" (old style.)

Two children of this marriage were baptized at Stafford, viz.: William, born 24th March 1657, and Mary, born 29th April 1659; buried 22nd February 1663. Probably Charles was a younger son of the same parents[4]; but I have been unable to find his baptism. Evidently Stafford was his home, for he was brought from Shiffnall to be buried there, 5th March 1707; and his wife, Sarah, was brought from Betley, and buried there 12th February 1729.

Kelsall does not follow the fortunes of Thomas Abnett, after he removed to Stafford.

Four Abnetts were educated at Oxford between 1637 and 1710, but Charles was not one of them.

1. Harleian M.S.S., 6104, fol. 1.
2. I suppose that the Abnetts lived at Eardley Hall. There is an old fashioned brick house there of considerable size, rather dilapidated, with half-timbered farm buildings. The Abnett property at Eardley End was assessed at £128 in 1701, and was let to two tenants.
3. Foster's "Alumni Oxonienses" shows that in 1703-4 there were two William Abnetts, one of Stafford, and the other of Audley.
4. Charles Abnett's Will shows that he had a brother William, living in 1707, vide supra.

John and Anastasia[1] Cradock had three sons, John born 18th February 1724; George born 9th July 1725, and Charles born 12th November 1726; and two daughters, Anastasia born 7th November 1727, and Catherine baptised 14th September 1729.

All the sons died before their parents, and we can imagine what a grief that must have been. John died 13th February 1746, Charles (who was of Queen's College Oxford, and Vicar of Audley) 22nd June 1753, and George (who was of Hertford College Oxford) 26th March 1755.

Of the two daughters, Anastasia married 16th April 1748 her first cousin, John Fenton of Newcastle; and Catherine in 1760, after her father's death, married Charles Tollet. I shall return to them presently.

John Cradock died 8th February 1758, and was buried at Audley. He made a will, which is referred to in various letters; but it is not to be found at Somerset House, Lichfield,[2] or Chester, nor have I found any copy of it at Aqualate. His widow Anastasia died 22nd February 1763, and was buried at Audley.

Thomas Cradock of Nantwich, John's younger brother, the last male representative of the family, died 12th April 1762. A copy of his will, dated 9th March 1758, is at Aqualate. He left his Staffordshire property to his two nieces Anastasia Fenton and Catherine Cradock; and he settled his Cheshire property on Theophila Edwards the daughter of his sister Mary, with remainder to his nephew Thomas Fenton younger brother of John. This will, not having been duly executed, became wholly or partially void. It is curious that the testamentary affairs of these two lawyer brothers should be so involved. But a much more eminent lawyer, Edward Sugden Lord St. Leonards, left his affairs in still greater confusion.

John Cradock had enemies, as successful men, and especially lawyers, are apt to have. And one of them, a certain Mr. Birtles, adopted the truly oriental method of aspersing John Cradock's grandfather. This called forth an elaborate written reply, which is full of information about the Cradock family affairs. The reader will find it in Appendix G. i.

There is an oil painting at Aqualate, which is said to represent John Cradock and his wife.

1. She was the first of the Anastasias. There has been one or more in each of the six succeeding generations. I first meet with "Ta," as short for it, in 1780.
2. A paper at Aqualate, on which are John Cradock's funeral directions, says that three copies of the Will were made, one for each of his daughters, and one to be enrolled at Lichfield.

The Earlier Pedigree is taken from the Heralds' Visitation of 1614 (see William Salt Collections for the year 1884, Vol. V., part ii.)

Neither Sir David Cradock, nor his brothers Richard and Roger, left any male issue. His daughter Pelezina had a son by her second husband Robert Massy of Aldford, Cheshire Visitations 1580 p. 174.

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John Cradock, 25 Henry VI. (said to have been brother of Sir Miles Cradock, one of the founders of Nantwich Church).

John Cradock, 11 Edward IV. (John Cradock was on the Jury at the Inq. p. m. of Ralph Neville in 1458.

Richard Cradock, 16 Henry VII.

Richard Cradock, 22 Henry VIII.

Thomas Cradock, ancestor of Cradocks of Stafford and Caverswall.

William Cradock D. C. L. d. s. p. 1530.

William Cradock the elder, of Hungersheath, Ashley, Co. Stafford. Will proved at Lichfield, 18th May 1545. = Agnes, living 1543.

William Cradock, bur. Ashley, 14th June 1576. Churchwarden of Ashley, 1552. = Margaret bur. Ashley, 2nd Feb. 1585.

John Cradock, of Hungersheath, bur. Ashley, 8th Nov. 1593. Will proved at Lichfield. = Alice Lovat, m. at Ashley, 20th May 1551, bur. there 20th May, 1572.

Richard Cradock, of Longnor, Co. Stafford.

Edward Cradock, bap. 15th Feb. 1560. = Elizabeth Clowes, m. 20th Jan. 1592.

Joan Bloore, 2nd wife. = John Cradock, of Halmerend, bap. 21st May 1570, bur. Audley, 20th Dec. 1618. Will proved at Lichfield. = Frances Parker, m. at Stone, 28th April 1603, bur. Audley, 24th Sep. 1604.

4 daughters.

John Cradock, bap. 24th Sep. 1604, bur. 19th March 1645. Intestate. = Ann Whitehall, of Bignall Hill, Audley, m. 16th July 1625, d. 6th Oct. 1685.

John Cradock, bap. 24th Dec. 1626, bur. 31st Mar. 1705. Will at Lichfield. = Margaret Lovat, m. 14th Feb. 1650, d. 18th Nov. 1687.

8 daughters, and 1 son who died young.

John Cradock, b. 19th Jan. 1657, d. 9th Sep. 1721. Will at Lichfield. = Theophila Bayley, m. at Madeley, Staffs., 11th Aug. 1683, d. 3rd Feb. 1743, aged 79.

4 daughters.

John Cradock, bap. 24th May 1686, d. 8th Feb. 1758. = Anastasia Abnett, b. 10th Feb. 1689, m. Sep. 1722. d. 22nd Feb. 1763.

2 sons died S.P., James in 1715, and Thomas in 1762; and 6 daughters.

Anastasia Cradock, b. 17th Nov. 1727, m. 16th Mar. 1748, to her first Cousin, d. 2nd Feb. 1797. = John Fenton, of Newcastle U.L., b. 28th May 1721, d. 5th Mar. 1782.

John Cradock, b. 18th Feb. 1724, d. S.P. 13th Feb. 1746.

George Cradock, b. 4th July 1725, d. 26th March 1755, S.P.

Charles Cradock, Clerk, b. 12th Nov. 1726, d. 22nd June 1753, S.P.

Catherine Cradock, m. to Charles Tollet; bap. 14th Sep. 1729, d. 26th July 1807.

John Fenton, b. 2nd May 1749, d. 13th Sep. 1782, S.P.

Anne Fenton, b. 26th Oct. 1751, m. 8th May 1781, at Newcastle U.L. d. 22nd Oct. 1821, at Betley. = Thomas Fletcher, of Newcastle, b. 25th Nov. 1747, created a Baronet 1798, d. 14th July 1812, at Betley.

Anastasia Fenton, b. and d. 1750. Anastasia Fenton, b. 2nd May 1752, d. 3rd June 1780, S.P.

Catherine Fenton, b. 6th Oct. 1757, m. Rev. John Armitstead, d. 24th Feb. 1798.

Sir John Fenton Boughey, b. 1st. May 1784,; took the name of Boughey 1805; d. 27th June 1823. = Henrietta Dorothy Chetwode, m. 8th Feb. 1808, d. 22nd Jan. 1849.

Anastasia Fletcher, b. 29th Nov. 1782, d. S.P. 15th April 1848.

Elizabeth Fletcher, b. 6th Nov. 1785, m. 21st June 1814, d. 18th July 1863. = Francis Twemlow, b. 16th Aug. 1783, d. 10th Mar. 1865.

Before proceeding to describe John Cradock's house, it will be well to say a few words about the parish and manor of Betley. According to a modern directory the parish now contains 1425 acres of land and 38 of water; the latter item refers, I conclude, solely to Betley Mere, which is the only *natural* sheet of water. In ancient days the place was of some importance, and had a market, and even perhaps a member of parliament.[1] In the reign of Charles II. the manor belonged to Major-General Randolph Egerton, who died in 1681. His wife was buried in Westminster Abbey.[2] His representatives in the female line subsequently sold their interests.

The purchaser of one portion was George Tollet, who had been a Commissioner in the Navy and a friend of Pepys the diarist.[3] In 1718 he bought the land on which the present Betley Hall stands. In 1724 he appears in the land tax return as owner of the *new hall*; the old hall, which still remains, standing some three hundred yards to the north-west of it on the other side of the main road. One would naturally suppose that George Tollet built a new house; but seemingly that was not so, for Hinchliffe says that an old half-timbered house, built by the Egertons, stood on the site of the present Betley Hall until the latter was built in 1783.

This old house therefore must have been called the *new* hall[4] because it was junior to the old hall which still survives. The old hall and the bulk of the manor were bought 2nd June 1720 by John Chetwynd Esq., afterwards second Viscount Chetwynd, the acreage being given as 905, the rental £490, and the price £14,387. The Egertons of Wrinehill held property in Betley, including the large[5] mere, until quite recently; and this, with the Tollet and Cradock properties, would account for most of the balance of the parish not included in John Chetwynd's purchase. Doubtless there were some other freeholders; such as the Salt family, who I believe owned the large house in the village which afterwards became a draper's shop. The manor of Betley was still Chetwynd property in 1744: but at some subsequent time it was purchased by the Tollets. George Tollet died at Charing Cross 1st April 1727 and was buried at St. Martin's in the Fields. He left two sons, George and Cook. This younger George had also two sons George and Charles. George the elder of these, born in the Isle of Man 20th September 1725, was literary in his tastes and an authority on Shakespeare.[6] He died in October 1779, and was succeeded by his brother Charles, the husband of Catherine Cradock. Charles set to work to build the present Betley Hall early in 1780, and got it finished by the spring of 1783.

It is now high time to return to Betley Court; the earliest description of which is given in a document drawn up shortly after the death of its founder and which is as follows.

"Memorandum for an agreement betwixt Mr. John Fenton of Newcastle and Miss Cradock of Betley.

1. Harwood, p. 92, note. But it is doubtful if this was so.
2. Near the west end of the north aisle of the nave.
3. See Hinchliffe's Barthomley, p. 188, where many interesting particulars of the Tollet family are given.
4. In the rate-book of 1770 this house is valued at £10 only.
5. The little Mere appears to be wholly in Cheshire, or nearly so.
6. Hinchliffe's Barthomley, p. 190.

It is agreed that Miss Cradock may hold for one year to be computed from 25th March last that capital or Dwelling house standing in Betley aforesaid wherein John Cradock deceased lately did inhabit, with that other piece of building called the Brewhouse and Laundry, and the chambers over the same with the cellar under the office, and also the Stable Court with the Dovehouse, the stable with the stable next adjoining and the lofts over them, with a midden place in the Barnyard for laying of muck, the pig-stys in the Barnyard or the larger if thought more convenient, Together with the Hall court the Paved court the Brick court the orchard with the (?) , and garden with Summer house and garden house, the Broad Walk the Green Walk and the Street Walk. But all other lands or buildings which were in the tenure or occupation of the late Mr. Cradock are without exception saved and reserved to the said John Fenton with all privileges thereto belonging. It is further agreed that the lime trees planted for ornament shall be kept in good order by frequent and necessary dubbing, and that the parties shall bear an equal share of the expense. And the said Miss Cradock agrees to pay the yearly rent of Sixteen pounds by equal portions, the first payment to be due on 29th September, and the other on 25th March following. And the said John Fenton agrees to pay all lewns and taxes imposed upon the premises, and to keep repairs."

With regard to the lime trees, the question arose whether they were an encroachment upon the public road or not. And at Lord Chetwynd's Court Baron held 18th October 1744, the jury made the following presentment.

"That there is a row of lyme trees standing in a direct line from the upper end of Mr. John Craddocks malt-kiln to the said John Craddock's old house (late Mr. Vernon Younge's) all which stand on the said John Craddocks lands of inheritance, And upon demand he promises to remove the posts and stones lying betwixt the trees and the common street. And we do further present that all the lymes standing on the other side the street stand upon the lord's waste, and were planted there by the said lord's order and direction."

By comparing these two documents with what remains of John Cradock's house, we arrive at certain conclusions.

The space of twenty yards or so between the house and the road formed a fore-court,—the "hall court" of the agreement—: and the handsome iron gate stood where it stands now (but no doubt supported by brick pillars), and formed the entrance from the road. The entrance doorway probably had a simple stone architrave and no porch.[1] The red and blue brickwork, built in Flemish bond, with red "headers" and blue "stretchers,"[2] and pilasters, of course remains; and the coat of arms and the stone vases are original; but the semicircular bows facing north and south, with their conical roofs, were an afterthought. The roof was of green slate, steep, with hips not gables; inside the roof were attics, across which the tiebeams came most awkwardly about a yard from the floor. The house originally was nearly square in plan, the north and south sides being rather

1. Very likely it had semicircular steps leading to it, like the front door at Eardley End; and this decided the shape of the porch afterwards erected by Sir T. Fletcher.
2. This arrangement of brickwork is not very common. It is to be found in the old Rectory at Newcastle-under-Lyme, built by Rev. Egerton Harding in 1698.

longer than those facing east-west. The front door was in the eastern face and opened into an entrance hall with a parlour on each side. The oak panelling now in the entrance hall is not original, but came, I believe, from the church. The entrance hall led into the staircase, which was rather long and narrow, in the centre of the house, and was lighted from the top. The floor of the hall was of white stone and black marble, and the handrail of the stairs was of oak with carved balusters. To the south of the staircase was a room (now part of the drawing room), with a narrow room or passage adjoining it which has been absorbed into the drawing-room. This room must I think have been the dining-room; the present dining-room was added later. To the north of the staircase were the offices;[1] in my recollection the pantry was there. But all this part of the house has been altered more than once.

To the north of this main block of the house there were subsidiary buildings, some of them probably older than John Cradock's time—the lawyer's office, brewhouse, laundry, stables, and apparently also a malt-kiln. The dovehouse is there still, and is a pretty feature, octagonal with a glass lantern. The barnyard was to the west again, adjoining the kitchen garden; and I can remember a bit of the old barn still remaining. The walled garden was much smaller than now, and the northern part of the present garden was probably the orchard.

The grounds were of course of formal design: we cannot tell where the broad walk and the green walk were, but we can guess that the street walk ran parallel to the public road. The old stone sundial survives; and also a long narrow piece of water called the "Canal" may have been part of the original arrangement.

The avenue of lime trees which shades the public road was kept closely clipped, as those at Fontainebleau are still, and must have given endless trouble. When this was discontinued does not appear, probably very soon after John Cradock's death.

There is at Aqualate a rough map of Betley dating from John Cradock's time. From this it appears that Mr. Yonge's property joined John Cradock's at it's lower or southern end. The conveyance from Yonge to Cradock is dated 16th May 1732, and the price was £850. Mr. Yonge is described as of Newport. The house referred to by the Jury in 1744 I take to have been the little white house, standing near the present cart stable, which was pulled down by my grandfather when he rebuilt the home farm about the year 1858. The malt-kiln was probably at the northern extremity of John Cradock's frontage.

In the 18th century the present demesne land of Betley Court was divided into several holdings, the rate book of 1770 mentioning four, the occupants and values being, Charles Tollet £28, John Heys £20 15 0, John Heath £50 5 0, Widow Owen £5.

To return to Catherine Cradock and her tenancy of her late father's house.

"Rien n'est permanent sauf le provisoire," says the proverb; and this temporary arrangement went on for twenty-five years, 1758–1783. Charles Tollet married Catherine at St. Dunstan's in the West, Fleet Street, E.C., 14th

1. Perhaps the lawyer's office was here. It had a cellar under it, and so has this part of the house.

June 1760. Three children were born, Charles, 2nd December 1761, Anastasia, 13th June 1764, and Catherine, 9th June 1766; but none of them grew up. Charles died 28th June 1776, aged 14, Anastasia 25th June 1778, at Betley, and Catherine 30th October 1780, at Chester, where she was at school. We can understand that their old home would after this have painful associations for the parents; and that they were glad to move to their new house at the other end of the village in the spring of 1783.

I now return to Catherine's elder sister Anastasia, who had married John Fenton of the "Steps" in Newcastle, 16th April 1748.

This John Fenton's grandfather, whose name was also John and who was the elder brother of Elijah Fenton the poet, lived at Shelton Hall in the parish of Stoke-on-Trent, till 1695, when he removed to Newcastle.[1] Besides having land of his own, and also in right of his wife;[2] he followed the profession of an attorney. And about 1701 or 1702 he built the house afterwards known as the "Steps." His eldest son had no male issue; but his second son Thomas, Recorder of Newcastle, had a son, the John Fenton with whom we are now concerned. This John Fenton was born 28th May 1721, and was educated at Balliol College, Oxford. He was made a county magistrate in 1758, and seems to have been a man of considerable local influence. The letters and diaries which have been preserved at Aqualate show that he and his wife were on the most affectionate terms, and all their family relations seem to have been happy. They had a son John, born 2nd May 1749, who was in every way satisfactory. He was amiable in character, and sociable; and though studious, was fond of horses, and enjoyed games and country pursuits. He was educated at Pembroke College, Oxford.

The elder surviving daughter Anne,[3] born 26th October 1751, was married 8th May 1781, to her kinsman Thomas Fletcher, with whom we are already acquainted, and of whom we shall hear more by and by. The second daughter Anastasia, born 22nd May 1753, was delicate and did not marry. The youngest daughter Catherine, born 6th October 1757, married 14th November 1787 Rev. John Armitstead, and had children.

The first family trouble that we hear of was occasioned by the health of the second daughter Anastasia. In a letter dated 14th May 1780, Charles Tollet writes: "Mrs. Fenton and two of her daughters are set out for Bristol waters. I think Miss Ta Fenton can't hold it out long, being in a consumption." The waters of course only hastened the end, and she died 3rd June at Worcester on the way home. This could not have been unexpected, but far worse was to come in "Dreadful 1782" as Mrs. Fenton calls it. For John Fenton her husband died 5th March, without much warning; and her son John followed him to the grave 13th September. The young man was certainly a victim to the influenza epidemic of that year; which was so severe that Admiral Kempenfelt's fleet was quite disabled by it. The attack left young John Fenton thoroughly anæmic and out of health. His mother took him to Park Gate on the estuary of the

1. His eldest son John was baptized at Stoke, all his other children at Newcastle.
2. His wife was Elizabeth Bagnall, heiress of Fenton Park.
3. There had been an Anastasia born 1750, who died an infant.

Dee,[1] but in vain. He became dropsical, and returned home only to die. By these successive blows poor Mrs. Fenton was quite crushed; and she continually refers to her grief in her letters, some of them written long after.

She decided to leave Newcastle,[2] and to go and live at her old home at Betley, which the Tollets were on the point of vacating. She writes that not only the house but the outbuildings and garden walls were in great dilapidation. But for this she could not of course blame the Tollets, because by the agreement it was her husband's duty "to keep repairs." As soon as she got possession of the house in 1783, she set to work; and in May 1784 she took up her abode at Betley. Her alterations seem to have included the building of the present dining-room, and the addition of semi-circular bows to the two rooms adjoining the entrance hall. Whether she employed an architect or not is not stated, but the work was well done, and good taste is displayed in the decoration of the mantelpieces and ceilings. The latter were plain, with the exception of the cornice mouldings, and had no medallions or floral patterns on them.

The grounds were no doubt re-arranged at this time according to the prevailing taste. Charles Tollet writes, 24th March 1785, "Mrs. Fenton has had Mr. Emes[3] to lay out her grounds, &c., so that Betley will soon be a pritty place, having plenty of woods and waters about us, which are agreeable things to a skilful person." The sunk fence between the garden and the field, which was filled up soon after 1865, was probably Mr. Emes' work. In April 1787 Mrs. Fenton writes that Kate had long wished for an additional room, and that she had at last consented to it. But as Kate soon after this married and left Betley, no more was done in the matter. When Mrs. Fenton left Newcastle, the "Steps" was taken over by her son-in-law Thomas Fletcher, who made great alterations there. The building bills are at Aqualate, and show that he must almost have rebuilt it. The house still stands in Penkhull Street, Newcastle, and I visited it in March 1909, Mr. Rupert Simms, of the Bibliotheca Staffordiensis, kindly acting as cicerone. The house now belongs to the National Provincial Bank, and Mr. and Mrs. Nicholls, the present occupants, were most obliging in allowing me to see it. The building has been a good deal altered to adapt it to modern needs, but Thomas Fletcher's drawing-room of 1784 remains virtually unaltered. The ceiling is elaborate, and rich in the class of ornament that prevailed at that time; and the chimney-piece is in the same taste. At the back of the house there is a smaller room with a semi-circular bow lighted by three windows, exactly like those built by Mrs. Fenton, at Betley. Thomas Fletcher seems to have built out two bows, the second one containing the staircase.

The most interesting room in the house, however, is on the attic floor. It is panelled completely with Jacobean oak; and one can only conjecture that this oak was brought there from Shelton, by John Fenton, in Queen Anne's reign.

1. Park Gate used to be a fashionable resort and was supposed to be especially good for children, owing to the iodyne in the rich black mud on the foreshore. My sister and I spent some time there in 1858, while the great comet was visible, and again in 1862. Its reputation is now somewhat dimmed.
2. Mrs. Fenton, writing in 1783, complains of the amount of building going on in Newcastle, which was quite losing its rural character.
3. William Emes was a celebrated landscape gardener. Between 1778 and 1780 he laid out grounds at Oulton, in Cheshire, for Mr. Egerton, at a cost of over £1,000.

After her daughter Kate's marriage, Mrs. Fenton must have found Betley somewhat lonely. People took advantage of her helpless condition. "The workmen consider me as a kind of lawful prize," she writes. Charles Tollett, who was a bit of a wag, played a cruel practical joke upon her one day; he persuaded the vestry meeting to elect her churchwarden. So she persuaded her daughter "Nannie" and her son-in-law Thomas Fletcher to come and make their home with her in 1792. They paid her some rent, and expenses were shared, as was also the considerable further outlay upon the house and grounds from 1793 onwards. More bedrooms and more offices were required, and accordingly the ugly three-storied red-brick tail known as the "Factory" was added. Perhaps too at this time the semi-circular stone porch with columns (which now does duty in the grounds as a summer house) was added, and the carriage drive, with two wooden gates and a clump of bushes between them, substituted for the old forecourt and iron gate. An icehouse and a grapehouse were also built. The house which hitherto had had no distinct name was in 1793 known as "Betley House."

How long the joint arrangement went on I do not know; but Mrs. Fenton died at Newcastle 2nd February 1797; so possibly the partnership had been dissolved before that time; and doubtless Thomas Fletcher kept on his house at Newcastle for business purposes. It was not until 3rd December 1800 that Sir Thomas, as he had then become, let the "Steps" on a seven years lease to William Hassells, banker. And in November 1808 he sold it outright to Joseph Pearson for £2,950. In 1805 Aqualate was purchased, but it was not fit for habitation, after its extension, till 1810. In 1809-10[1] the drawing room at Betley Court assumed its present shape; the room was lengthened by adding the the adjoining small room or passage to it, and it was widened by throwing out a bow in the centre. Nash, the architect of Regent Street, who was then being employed at Aqualate, arranged this. But the fireplace remained at the east end of the room for some time longer, until my grandfather removed it to its present central position.

About this time too Sir Thomas greatly increased the kitchen garden, making it more than double its original size. But in March 1806 a northerly gale blew down 50 or 60 yards of the new wall, the gardener having a narrow escape of being buried under it.[2]

He also gave the place its present name of "Betley Court" in the year 1807. The date is absolutely fixed by the addresses of letters from such well informed correspondents as Sir Thomas's son and his lawyer.

After this "the land had rest forty years" or rather for over 50, few changes being made till after 1865. Sir Thomas died 14th July 1812; and Betley Court was Lady Fletcher's dower house till her death 22nd October 1821. After this it passed to the elder daughter Anastasia Fletcher, known in the family as "Aunt Bob."[3] She died 15th April 1848; and then and not till then, my grandfather and

1. At this date, too, a W.C. seems to have become a necessary adjunct to a mansion.
2. Letter from Lady Fletcher to Sir T. Fletcher, who was then in London.
3. As "Aunt Bob" died before I was born, I can say little about her. Her grandmother, Mrs. Fenton, records that she was very like her grandfather, Mr. Fenton, in temper and manner as well as in person. Her portrait is at Betley Court, and also at Aqualate. Her nephews and nieces always spoke of her with much affection.

Betley Court from the east.

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CITY
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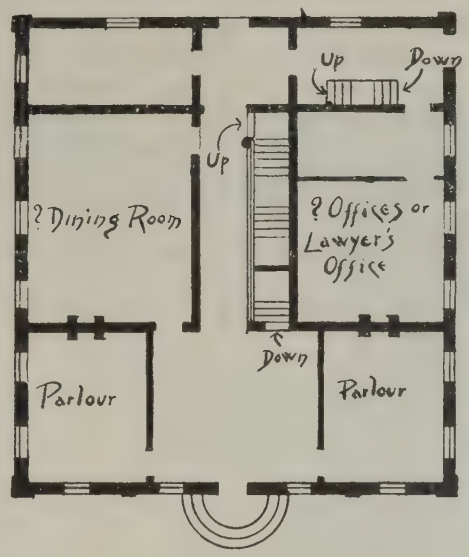
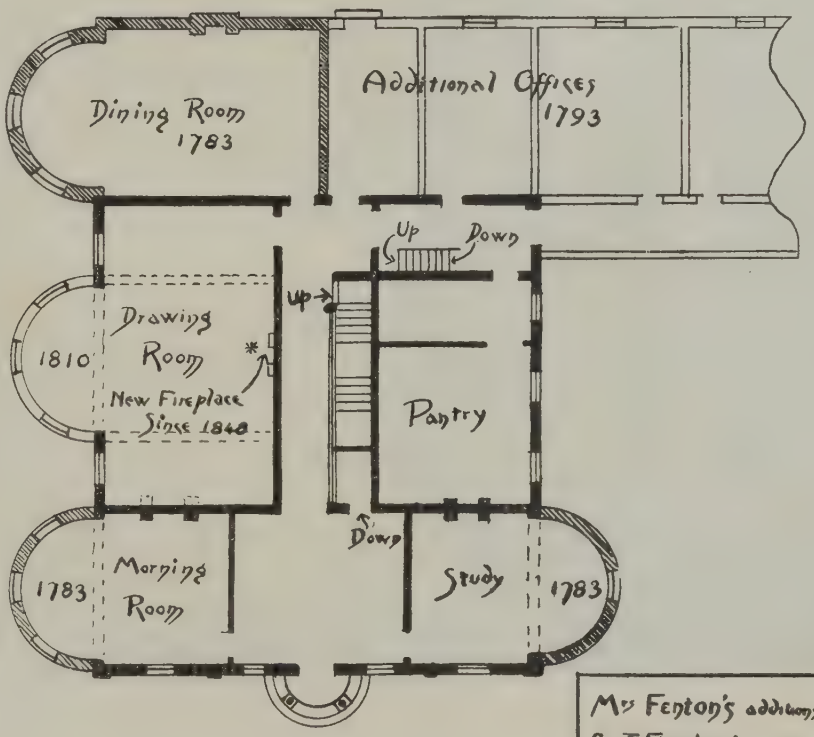


John Cradock's House at Betley Built 1716

The arrangement of the offices is uncertain. And a portion only of them is shown



grandmother became owners of the house in which they had lived from the time of their marriage in 1814. They were then much too old to wish to alter their surroundings; and with the exception of the small improvement in the drawing-room just mentioned, nothing, so far as I know, was done to the house. My grandfather however, rebuilt the house and buildings at the home farm; and, I think, built the red and blue-brick wall that divides the pleasure grounds from the public road.

Since 1865 many alterations have been made; but into this subject it is not necessary for me to go. The reader will probably agree that quite enough has already been written about "modern improvements" in this chapter.

Betley Court from the south.

7.—DODDLESPOOL.

Doddlespool, in Balterley township, was my father's home 1873-9, and so requires a passing notice.

The old house was built in 1605, and additions were made in blue and red-brick about 1700.[1] About the middle of the nineteenth century it belonged to a Mr. Hodgson. Afterwards it belonged to Colonel Tomkinson of Willington Hall, who has already been mentioned in connection with the Wilbraham family. His eldest son William resided there for a short time; but it was usually let to tenants. In Colonel Tomkinson's time the house was renovated and entirely modernised; and on the Colonel's death it passed to his youngest son Henry, who sold it to my father in 1873.

As the Doddlespool land adjoined the Betley Court property, it was considered a desirable purchase; and being then in want of a home, my father decided to settle there. He did a good deal to improve it, and it answered his purpose fairly well; but I cannot say that I ever liked the place. In 1903, at the time when the new arrangement as to the Elms and Alsager was made, I sold it to my aunt Eliza Anne Twemlow; and it now forms part of the Betley Court property.

1. About the end of the eighteenth century, Doddlespool was tenanted by a cadet member of the Broughton family of Broughton and Doddington. This gentleman was descended from Sir Thomas Broughton, the second baronet, and was born in 1747. His grandson, Rev. R. E. Broughton, has been Vicar of Prestbury, Cheshire, since 1889.

End of Part III.

CONCLUSION.

WE have now come to the end of our journey. Starting from the Lidulph who was lieutenant[1] to Randle Blundeville, Earl of the County Palatine of Chester in the reign of King Richard the First, we have seen that his family held land in Twemlow township during the 13th and 14th centuries, and were much in contact with the great religious houses of those days. Richard the archer reminds us of King Richard the Second's Cheshire Bodyguard, while his contemporary Thomas recalls the lawlessness and troubles of that distracted reign.

In the fifteenth century, the facts recorded about Thomas Twemlow the pluralist rector of Tilston and Astbury, have led us to consider the position and habits of the secular clergy before the Reformation. In the sixteenth century the materials at our disposal are more abundant and precise; and our knowledge of the Twemlows of that century is considerable. We note also the disappearance of the great barons such as Lord Audley, and the rise to importance of the squires and yeomen. We see how the latter gradually improved their position, became freeholders, and were able to hold their own without requiring the protection of an overlord; how they increased in wealth and advanced in education; how at one time members of the family leaned towards Puritanism and dissent, and afterwards returned to the establishment and supplied clergy to the Church of England.

We have seen how the middle of the eighteenth century brought the yeoman face to face with a crisis. To use an old expression, he had to be "a man or a mouse." Many, especially the older ones, went down in the social scale; but the three brothers John, George, and Thomas Twemlow had youth on their side, rose to the occasion, extended their field of operations, and improved their position.

England at this time increased greatly in wealth, power, and importance; and they were able to adapt themselves to the new circumstances, and to claim their share in the general prosperity. They helped to provide money to make the canals, as their sons did to make the railways; and they assisted in their small way to improve the system of farming. With the exception of during the eventful years between the accession of George III. and the beginning of the French Revolution, the members of the family have always been dwellers in the country not men of the town; their homes and their work have lain amongst rural surroundings, and they have always had a stake in the land.

For three generations the descendants of Thomas have lived the ordinary life of country squires. They have been much attached to their land, have managed it themselves, and have done their best for it; and they have escaped the mania for extending their borders regardless of cost, which has been the ruin

1. Randle was *Comes* and Lidulph *Vicecomes*. The words are now translated Earl and Sheriff, and fail to show the relation between the two offices.

of so many families. They have also taken their part in county business, and local work of all kinds, to the best of their ability. And now the male line of this branch is coming to an end; and the right heirs of John of Macclesfield have emigrated to New Zealand and Canada. So that the family may in a short time have no representative in England;[1] and the time seems opportune for writing its history. Possibly too the class of squires is about to follow that of the yeomen, and to disappear from the face of the land; at present things are not going well with it, and many country houses are shut up or let to tenants. If that should be so, then perhaps the foregoing notes may be of interest to the antiquary of the future.[2]

With regard to the wives, there is not much to comment upon. The interest of this part of the book centres principally in my own mother and her family. Fortunately it has not been necessary for me to say a great deal about them, because they have left writings from which the reader may judge what manner of people they were.

The hunting out of the old houses has been to me a labour of love. Of the three earlier ones it has been difficult to gather much, but some little has been rescued from oblivion. Of the four later ones I have been able to write from personal knowledge, going back for nearly half a century to a time anterior to the alterations and enlargements which they have recently undergone. Perhaps this hobby has been ridden rather hard, and it is hoped that the reader will be indulgent. Those who have taken up a study of this kind well know how engrossing it is apt to become.

1. Since writing the above, I have heard that descendants of Joseph, the youngest brother of George and Thomas, still survive.
2. This was written before the introduction of the Lloyd-George Budget.

THE APPENDIX.

APPENDIX A. i.

BRITISH MUSEUM, ADDITIONAL CHARTERS 39997.

Charter, undated, but about the year 1230, whereby Warin de Croxton grants certain lands in Twemlow to Reginald son of Randle of Cranage.

NOTE. Warin de Croxton was son of Richard de Croxton, and grandson of Lidulph de Twemlow who was sheriff of Cheshire about the year 1200. Randle of Cranage was younger brother of Lidulph. The grantee, Reginald son of Randle, was surnamed le "Brun"; and his son Richard de Twemlow married Avicia daughter of Warin de Croxton, the grantor. See the pedigree in Ormerod's Cheshire Vol. II. p. 205. See also Ormerod's account of the Croxton family Vol. III. p. 210.

TRANSLATION.

Know all men now and in future both Romans and Englishmen who may see or hear this present Charter that I Warin Lord of Croxton[1] and Twemlow have given and conceded and by this present Charter confirmed to Reginald son of Randle of Cranage by his homage and service all the land that Nicholas held in the township of Twemlow and all the land that Jurdan held in the township of Twemlow except one croft which is between the house of William Bonetable and the house of Robert Palmary which I keep in my own hands and for which croft I have given to the said Reginald in exchange all the land which lies outside the feltiard[2] of Twemlow between these lands now granted. With the hauitlond over which Briery furlong descends that is to say from the oak which stands in the corner of the fence at Hutloneshende between Mucclefield and Uint'hedes[3] as the green lane comes from the said oak and goes on the outside up to the lane which comes from Goosetrey and from that lane to Lanulache[4] goes down without a hedge to the corner of William Bonetable's meadow and from the corner of the meadow so to the feltiard of Twemlow then it goes round the said land as far as the said oak at Hutloneshende. And all the land which belongs to my half of Twemlow between the township of [5]Mucle-hake'nes-holt-lond and Hutlone in the length of the church land up to the said oak that is in the corner of Hutloneshende I have also granted to the said Reginald and his heirs housebote[6] and hedge bote in my wood of Twemlow and acquitance from Pannage money in the said wood of Twemlow and for their cattle which the said Reginald or his heirs have put on the said lands to go into the said wood of Twemlow whenever necessary and neither the said Warin nor his heirs are to exact anything from him He and his heirs to hold from me and my heirs in fee and in possession freely and quietly fully and peacefully in the wood in the plain in roads and paths in meadows and pastures and in all liberties and easements belonging to the said township of Twemlow Paying annually to me and my heirs for him and his heirs three shillings in money at two dates viz. eighteen pence on the birthday of St. John the Baptist and eighteen pence at the feast of St. Martin for all services and exactions and customs pertaining to the said land And for this grant and concession the said Reginald gave me three marks in money as an acknowledgment And I the said Warin and my heirs will warrant to the said Reginald and his heirs the said lands against all men and women. These being witnesses Richard Sheriff of Cheshire and Lord of Sandbach[7] Peter de Swetenham Richard de Kingsley Peter de Frodsham Simon de Newton William Bonetable[8] Richard then rector of Alderley Henry de Hul William son of Huva de Hul Henry de Cranage and Randle and Thomas his brothers[9] Abel then chaplain of Goosetrey and Hugh then chaplain of Alderley and many others.

1. Ormerod says he was lord of Croxton in 22 Hen. III., 1238.
2. Probably the tanyard. "Felt" means "skin" in old English. (Dr. Johnson's Dictionary.)
3. There is a contraction mark over the "t"; possibly the word in full might be "Winterheads." There is a place called "Winterbottom," a little to the north of Goosetrey.
4. "Lache" means a hole or pit.
5. I cannot identify this place.
6. That is the right to take wood for repairing houses and fences.
7. Sheriff in 1230.
8. Earwaker (History of Sandbach, p. 268) mentions this family as holding 80 acres in Twemlow in 1292.
9. Brothers of the grantor. Ormerod, Vol. III., p. 127, gives his name (as living about 1230), and also his brother Thomas, and a brother William. But I have not found his brother Randle's name elsewhere.

TOPOGRAPHICAL NOTE. The feltiard, or tanyard may very possibly have been on the little brook which runs between Twemlow Hall and Twemlow Green. The field names I have been unable to identify at all.

The wood of Twemlow was probably to the south and south-west of Twemlow Hall, between it and the river Dane. This is shown by the field names, which are those of clearings, viz. the "Big Ridding," the "Master Ridding," and the "Birches" (corruption of Britch = clearing). These fields amount to about forty acres. (Particulars of sale, Nov. 1862.)

APPENDIX A. ii.

ENQUIRY AS TO THE TITLE OF THOMAS DE TWEMLOWE TO LAND IN TWEMLOWE IN THE YEAR 1291.

[1]BREVE. Edwardus dei gratia Rex Anglic Dominus Hibernie et Dux Aquitanie dilecto et fideli suo Reginaldo de Grey Justiciario Cestrie salutem. Monstravit nobis Prior Hospitalarie Sancti Johannis Jerusalem in Anglia quod cum Thomas de Twamelawe teneat per certa servicia de predicto Priore duas acras terre et quartam partem quadringentarum acrarum bosci cum pertinenciis in Twamelawe. Abbas de Valle Regali clamans terram illam et boscum esse jus suum de dono nostro tanquam de quadem parte foreste nostre de la mare consuetudines et servicia prefato Priori de predictis tenementis debita et consueta facere contradicit in ipsius Prioris dispendium non modicum et Hospitalarie sui predicti exheredacionem manifestam. Et quia nolumus quod nobis vel predicto Priori seu prefato Abbati injurietur in hac parte vobis mandamus quod convocatis partibus coram vobis auditisque earum racionibus et allegacionibus hinc inde per sacramentum proborum et legalium hominum de partibus illis neutri partium suspectorum per quos rei veritas in premissis melius sciri poterit diligenter inquiratis utrum predictus Thomas teneat et tenere debeat et ipse et antecessores sui terram illam et boscum de prefato Priore et predecessoribus suis tenere consueverunt immediate nec ne et si sic tunc per quod servicium et a quo tempore et quo titulo et qualiter et quo modo an terra illa et boscus prefato Abbati secundum forma donacionis nostre predicte sine reclamacione predicti Prioris vel alterius debeant imperpetuum remanere. Et inquisicionem distincte et aperte inde factam sub sigillo vestro et sigillis eorum per quos facta fuerit nobis sine dilatione mittatis et hoc breve. *Teste me ipse apud Westmonasterium iij Februarie anno regni nostri decimo octavo.*

[2]Inquisitio facta aput Cestriam die Jovis in festo sancti Petri ad Cathedram coram domino Reginaldo de Grey justiciario Cestrie anno regni regis Edwardi nonodecimo per subscriptos videlicet per Willelmum de Beilkild' Robertum de Brescy Robertum de Crosselg' Willelmum de Bostok Johannem de Pen'. Ranulphum de Berymton Hugonem le Tiw Rogerum le Brun Henricum de Cotene Stephanum Venatorem Willelmum de Horton et Ricardum de Crawnache qui dicunt per sacramentum suum quod Thomas de Twemlowe tenuit terram in Twemlowe immediate de Priore Hospitalarie Sancti Johannis per servicium duodecim denariorum annui redditus et veniendi ad curiam dicti hospitalarie ad summonicionem eiusdem bis in anno et per consuetudinem dandi terciam partem omnium bonorum suorum ad mortem suam nomine obitus. Idem quod Thomas dedit cuidam Ricardo de Swetenam totam terram suam arabilem cum capitali mesuagio et medietate totius vasti sui et bosci faciendo omnes consuetudines et servicia que predictus Thomas dicto Priori facere consuevit et debuit et post ea jam tribus annis elapsis idem Thomas feoffavit abbatem et conventum de Valle Regali de alia medietate totius vasti sui et bosci qui modo illud vastum et boscum habent et tenent. In cuius rei testimonio sigilla predictorum juratorum huic sunt appensa.

TRANSLATION.

THE KINGS WRIT. Edward by the Grace of God King of England Lord of Ireland and Duke of Aquitaine to his beloved and faithful Reginald de Grey Justiciar of Cheshire greeting. The Prior of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem has declared to us that whereas Thomas de Twamelawe

1. Chanc. Inq. Misc. File 50, No. 8.
2. Chanc. Inq. Misc. File 50. (19 Edw. I., No. 29.)

holds by certain services of the said prior two acres of land and the fourth part of four hundred acres of wood with the appurtenances in Twamelawe the abbot of Vale Royal is claiming that that land and wood are rightly his by grant from us as of a certain part of our forest of la mara (Delamere). He denies that customs and services are due and accustomed to the said Prior from the said lands to the no small loss of the Prior himself and the manifest privation of his said Hospital. And because we are unwilling that we or the said Prior or the said Abbot should be wronged in this matter we command you that having called the parties before you and heard their arguments and allegations then thereafter you must diligently enquire through the oath of upright and lawful men of the district impartial to both sides by whom the truth of the matter with regard to the premises may best be known whether the said Thomas holds or ought to hold and he and his ancestors have been accustomed to hold the said land and wood from the said Prior and his predecessors immediately or otherwise and if so then by what services and from what time and by what title and how and in what manner—whether that land and wood ought to remain for ever with the said abbot according to the terms of our gift notwithstanding the opposition of the said Prior—or otherwise. And you are to send the inquisition clearly and openly then made under your seal and the seals of those by whom it was then made to us without delay together with this writ.

THE INQUISITION. Inquisition made at Chester on Tuesday the feast of St. Peter ad Cathedram before Sir Reginald de Grey Justiciar of Chester in the nineteenth year of King Edward by the undersigned that is to say by William de (? Bulkeley) Robert de Bresey Robert de Crossley William de Bostok John de Pen Randle de Berynton Hugh de Tiw Roger le Brun Henry de Cotton Stephen the Hunter William de Horton and Richard de Cranage who upon their oath say that Thomas de Twemlowe held land in Twemlowe directly from the Prior of the Hospital of St. John by the service of 12 pence a year rent and of coming to the Court of the said Hospital on summons from the same twice a year and by the custom of giving a third part of all his goods upon his death in the name of an obitus. That the same Thomas gave to a certain Richard de Swetenham all his cultivable land with his principal dwelling house, and one half of all his waste and wood performing all customs and services which the said Thomas performed and owed to the said prior. And three years after this the same Thomas enfeoffed the abbot and convent of Vale Royal of the other half of all his waste and wood who now have and hold that waste and wood. In testimony whereof the seals of the said jurors are hereto appended.

NOTE. I do not pretend to possess legal and historical knowledge enough to explain the true meaning of these documents.

Probably the enquiry was held under the provisions of the Statute of Westminster the Second 13 Ed. I. c. 32, one of the many Mortmain Acts, as to which Blackstone says "in deducing the history of which statutes, it will be matter of curiosity to observe the great address and subtle contrivance of the Ecclesiastics in eluding from time to time the laws in being; and the zeal with which successive parliaments have pursued them through all their finesses; how new remedies were still the parents of new evasions; till the legislature at last, though with difficulty, hath obtained a decisive victory."[1]

It must also be remembered that in the year preceding the enquiry the Statute Quia Emptores had been passed, which legalised the sale of lands held in fee simple, and forbade sub-infeudation and the creation of any new manors.

It therefore seems likely that these conveyances of land by Thomas de Twemlowe were bona fide transactions: but an alienation in Mortmain required the King's license, and by this Stat.: 27 Ed. I. c. 2, it was provided that this was to be obtained by writ of "ad quod damnum."

Richard de Cranage one of the jurors, was the son of Henry de Cranage, who was brother of Reginald le Brun the father of Thomas de Twemlowe. So that Richard was first cousin to Thomas.

1. Blackstone's Commentaries, 15th Edition, Vol. II., p. 268.

APPENDIX B. i.

CONVEYANCE *by Thomas de Twemlow to Hugh de Knutsford of land in Twemlow, reserving a rent of 29/- a year. From the original in the possession of Mr. Egerton Leigh.*

Sciant praesentes et futuri quod Ego Thomas de Twemlowe dedi concessi et hac præsenti carta mea indentata ad feodi firmam confirmavi Hugoni de Knuttesford omnia terras et tenementa mea cum edificiis et aliis pertinentiis suis in Twemlowe habendum et tenendum omnia praedicta terras et tenementa cum edificiis et omnibus suis pertinentiis libertatibus comoditatibus communis[1] et aisiamentis praedictis terris et tenementis aliquo modo spectantibus sive pertinentibus predicto Hugoni heredibus et assignatis suis libere quiete bene et in pace jure hereditario et in perpetuum de capitali domino feodi illius per servicia inde debita et de jure consueta et reddendo inde[2] annatim mihi prefato Thomas heredibus et assignatis meis de predicto Hugone heredibus et assignatis suis viginti novem solidos argenti ad duos anni terminos videlicet ad festa Nativitatis Sancti Johannis Baptistae et Sancti Martini in yeme per equales porciones et faciendo dominis capitalibus feodi illius servicia inde debita et de jure consueta pro omnibus in perpetuum Et si contingat predictum redditum viginti et novem solidorum arrero esse in parte vel in toto per undecem dies post aliquem terminum praedictum tunc bene liceat mihi praedicto Thomae heredibus et assignatis meis in omnibus terris et tenementis praedictis distringere et districtiones abducere fugare et retinere quousque de praedicto redditu quatenus arreragio plenar: (?plene) nobis fuerit satisfactum Et si contingat praedictum redditum viginti et novem solidorum arero esse per unum annum integrum et unum diem et districtio sufficiens pro praedicto redditu in eisdem terris et tenementis non fuerit inventa vel si prædictus Hugo heredes vel assignati sui aliqua edificia nunc super prædictam terram existentia vastaverint vel vastari permiserit nisi fuerit pro melioracione eorumdem tunc bene liceat mihi praefato Thomae heredibus et assignatis meis prædicta terras et tenementa cum edificiis et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis ingredi et retinere in perpetuum sine aliquali contradictione praedicti Hugonis heredum vel assignatorum suorum Et ego vero praedictus Thomas et heredes mei omnia praedicta terras et tenementa cum edificiis et omnibus aliis suis pertimentiis libertatibus comoditatibus communis et aysiamentis universis praedicto Hugoni heredibus et assignatis suis contra omnes gentes Warantizabimus et defendemus in perpetuum.

In cujus rei testimonio huic praesenti cartae meae indentatae tam sigillum meum quam praedicti Hugonis apposuimus hiis testibus Rogero de Berneshawe. Johanne Hardyne de Twemlowe Johanne de Lyttulor.[3] Willo de Swetenham Radulpho de Cranage et aliis Data apud Twemlowe die Martis in festo sanctae Margaretae virginis anno domini millo tricentesino nonagesino quinto."

The original endorsement is "Twemlowe." A subsequent endorsement in the sixteenth century hand is "A deed from Thomas de Twemlowe to Hugh de Knuttesford of his lands in Twemlow, reserving XXIXs. rente. Ao. Di. 1395.

APPOINTMENT *by Thomas de Twemlow of John Hardyne de Twemlow to be his attorney for delivering the seisin of this land to Hugh de Knutsford.*

"Pateat universis per praesentes me Thomas de Twemlowe ordinasse fecisse et in loco meo posuisse dilectum mihi in Cristo Johannem Hardyne de Twemlowe meum certum et fidelem attornatum ad diliberandum Hugoni de Knuttesford plenan et pacificam saysinam in omnibus illis terris et tenementis cum edificiis et omnibus aliis pertinentiis suis in quibus praedictum Hugonem per cartam meam indentatam feofavi ratum et gratum habens et habiturus quicquid praedictus Johannes Hardyne attornatus meus fecit in præmissis In cujus rei testimonio praesentibus sigillum meum apposui Data apud Twemlowe die Martis in festo sanctae Margaretae Virginis anno domini Millo tricentesimo nonagesimo quinto."

Original endorsement, "Twemlowe," Sixteenth century do. "A fee of attorney from Thomas de Twemlowe to John de Hardinge to deliver possession of his lands in Twemlow to Hugh de Knuttesford. Ao. Di. 1395."

1. Communa, *i.e.*, right of common.
2. Annatim, *i.e.*, yearly (not found in the Dictionary).
3. LYTTULOR, or Little over. See Ormerod, II., 139, and III., 169.

TRANSLATION.

Know the men of the present and of the future that I THOMAS DE TWEMLOWE have given conceded and by this my present charter indented have confirmed in fee farm[1] to Hugh de Knutsford all my lands and tenements with the buildings and their other appurtenances in Twemlow To have and to hold all the said lands and tenements with the buildings and all their appurtenances liberties commodities rights of common and easements to the said lands and tenements in any way relating or belonging to the said Hugh his heirs and assigns freely quietly well and in peace by hereditary right for ever From the lord in chief of that fief by the services therefor due and of right accustomed And paying therefor annually to me the said Thomas my heirs and assigns by the said Hugh his heirs and assigns twenty-nine shillings in money at two times of the year viz. on the feasts of the birthday of St. John the Baptist and of St. Martin in winter in equal portions and rendering to the lords in capite of that fief the services thence due and of right accustomed for everything for ever. And if it should happen that the said rent of twenty-nine shillings should be partly or wholly in arrear for eleven days after any of the aforesaid dates then it shall be lawful for me the said Thomas my heirs and assigns to distrain upon all the said lands and tenements and to take away drive and retain of the distress so much as shall fully compensate us for the rent in arrear And if it happens that the said rent is in arrear for a whole year and a day and no sufficient distress for the said rent can be found on the said lands and tenements or if the said Hugh his heirs or assigns shall pull down any of the buildings standing on the same lands and tenements or allow them to be pulled down except it be for the sake of improving them Then it shall be lawful for me the said Thomas my heirs and assigns into the said lands and tenements with their buildings and all other appurtenances to enter and to retain them for ever without any opposition on the part of the said Hugh his heirs and assigns And I the said Thomas and my heirs will warrant and assure all the said lands and tenements and the buildings and all their other appurtenances liberties commodities rights of common and all easements to the said Hugh his heirs and assigns against all men for ever In testimony whereof we have to this my present deed indented affixed the seal of both me and the said Hugh before these witnesses Roger de Berneshaw John Hardyne of Twemlowe John de Lyttulor William de Swetenham Ralph de Cranage and others Given at Twemlow on Tuesday the feast of St. Margaret the Virgin in the year of our Lord One thousand three hundred and ninety five.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS that I Thomas de Twemlowe have ordained made and put in my place John Hardyne de Twemlowe beloved of me in Christ as my sure and faithful attorney for delivering to Hugh de Knutsford full and peaceful seisin in all those lands and tenements with the buildings and all their other appurtenances in which I have enfeoffed the said Hugh by my deed indented deeming and about to deem whatever the said John Hardyne my attorney has done in the premises right and acceptable In testimony whereof I have affixed my seal to these presents Given at Twemlowe on Tuesday the feast of St. Mary the Virgin in the year of our Lord One thousand three hundred and ninety five.

APPENDIX B. ii.

PAPAL DISPENSATION OF 1475.

(Kindly contributed by Mr. J. A. Twemlow, of the British School in Rome.)

SUMMARY ANALYSIS.

1475, October 11. Extension by Pope Sixtus IV., so that it shall apply to parish churches or perpetual vicarages of any yearly value whatsoever, of a dispensation granted by Pope Pius II. to Thomas Twemlow, rector of Tilston—to hold for life with Tilston, whose yearly value does not exceed 12 L. sterling, any other benefice with cure or otherwise incompatible, or, without that church any two other such benefices, resign them simply or for purpose of exchange, and hold instead, likewise for life, two other incompatible benefices, provided that if they were parish churches or perpetual vicarages the yearly value of each should not exceed a hundred gold florins of the papal *camera.*

1. Land is let in fee farm, when either the full rent is reserved, or at least a quarter of it, without homage, fealty or other service beyond what are expressly comprised in the feoffment. Century Dictionary.

TRANSCRIPTION.

Sixtus etcetera[1] dilecto Filio Thome Twemlow, rectori parrochialis ecclesie de Tylstona[2] Conuentrensis et Lichefeldensis Diocesis, in decretis bacallario, salutem etcetera.[3] Litterarum scientia, vite ac morum honestas, aliaque laudabilia probitatis et virtutum merita, super quibus apud nos fidedigno commendaris testimonio, nos inducunt ut te specialibus fauoribus et gratiis prosequamur.

Dudum siquidem felicis recordationis Pius papa II. predecessor noster tecum ut unacum parrochiali ecclesia de Tylston Conuentrensis et Lichefeldensis Diocesis, quam tunc ut asserebas obtinebas, quodcunque aliud vel absque ea quecunque alia duo curata aut alias inuicem incompatibilia beneficia ecclesiastica, etiam si parrochiales ecclesie vel earum perpetue vicarie aut dignitates *personatus* administrationes vel officia in cathedralibus etiam metropolitanis vel collegiatis ecclesiis, et dignitates ipse in cathedralibus etiam metropolitanis post pontificales maiores aut in collegiatis ecclesiis huiusmodi principales seu tales mixtim forent, et ad dignitates personatus administrationes vel officia huiusmodi consueuissent qui per electionem assumi, eisque cura immineret animarum, si tibi alias canonice conferrentur, aut eligereris vel assumereris seu presentareris ad illa, et in eis instituereris, recipere et insimul quoad uiueres retinere, illaque et queuis alia que te imposterum canonice assequi contingeret incompatibilia beneficia huiusmodi, simul vel successiue, simpliciter vel ex causa permutationis dimittere, et in loco dimissi vel dimissorum aliud vel alia simile vel dissimile aut similia vel dissimilia beneficium seu beneficia ecclesiasticum vel ecclesiastica duo dumtaxat inuicem incompatibilia, dummodo si parrochiales ecclesie vel earum perpetue vicarie forent, earum cuiuslibet fructus redditus et prouentus centum florenorum auri de camera secundum communem extimationem valorem annuum non excederent, similiter recipere et insimul etiam quoad uiueres retinere libere et licite valeres gratiose per suas litteras dispensauit, prout in illis plenius continetur :

Nos (igitur) volentes te, qui ut asseris dictam ecclesiam de Tylston cuius fructus redditus et prouentus duodecim librarum sterlingorum secundum extimationem predictam valorem annuum non excedunt inter cetera obtines, ac litterarum et dispensationis huiusmodi vigore nullum aliud cum dicta ecclesia de Tylston incompatibile beneficium ecclesiasticum assecutus fuisti, premissorum meritorum tuorum intuitu fauore prosequi gratie amplioris, teque a quibusuis excommunicationis suspensionis et interdicti ac aliis ecclesiasticis sententiis censuris et penis a iure vel ab homine quauis occasione vel causa latis, si quibus quomodolibet innodatus existis, ad effectum presentium dumtaxat consequendum, harum serie absoluentes et absolutum fore censentes, necnon omnia alia et singula beneficia ecclesiastica sine cura que obtines, ac cum cura et sine cura que expectas, necnon in quibus et ad que ius tibi quomodolibet competit, quecunque quotcunque et qualiacunque sint, eorumque fructuum reddituum et prouentum veros valores annuos presentibus pro expressis habentes, tuis in hac parte supplicationibus inclinati, dispensationem[4] huiusmodi, cum permutandi ac omnibus et singulis aliis in prefatis litteris contentis clausulis, ad parrochiales ecclesias vel earum perpetuas vicarias cuiuscunque taxe vel annui valoris illarum fructus redditus et prouentus existant, premissis ac constitutionibus et ordinationibus apostolicis, necnon omnibus illis que idem Pius predecessor in prefatis litteris voluit non obstare, ceterisque contrariis nequaquam obstantibus, anctoritate apostolica tenore presentium de amplioris dono gratie ampliamus pariter et extendimus. Nulli ergo etcetera nostre absolutionis ampliationis et extensionis infringere etcetera. Siquis etcetera.[5] Datum Rome apud Sanctum Petrum anno incarnationis Dominice millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo quinto, quinto idus Octobris anno quinto.

TRANSLATION.

Sixtus the bishop, servant of the servants of God, to his beloved son Thomas Twemlow, rector of the parish church of Tylston in the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, bachelor of canon law,[6] greeting and the apostolic blessing. Your learning and the purity of your life and manners, and other laudible merits of your uprightness and virtue, in regard to which you are commended to us by trustworthy evidence, induce us to treat you with special favours and graces.

1. Episcopus, servus servorum Dei.
2. This is the only place in which there is a mark of abbreviation, "Tylston," I should think one could expand to "Tylston*a*."
3. Saluten et apostolicam benedictionem.
4. M.S., dispensationum.
5. *i.e.*, Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre absolutionis ampliationis et extensionis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignationem omnipotentis dei et beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum eius se nouerit incursurum.
6. See Jacob's "Law Dictionary," under "Canon Law."

Lately Pope Pius II. of happy memory, our predecessor, granted you a dispensation freely and lawfully to receive and to retain for life together with the parish church of Tylston in the Diocese of Coventry and Lichfield (which, as you stated, you were then holding) any other benefice with cure (of souls) or otherwise incompatible therewith, or, without the said church any two other benefices with cure or otherwise incompatible with one another, even if they were parish churches or perpetual vicarages thereof, or dignities, *personatus* administrations or offices in cathedral, even metropolitan, or collegiate churches, (even if the said dignities were in cathedral, even metropolitan churches greater dignities below the pontifical, or in collegiate churches principal dignities, or were one of each, and even if to such dignities, personatus administrations, or offices appointment were wont to be made by election, and even if they had cure (of souls),) in the event of their being collated to you or your being elected or appointed or presented to them, and your being instituted thereto, and to resign them and any other such incompatible benefices as you might thereafter obtain, together or one after the other, simply or for the purpose of exchange, and in a like manner to receive or to retain, likewise for life, instead of such resigned benefice or benefices another or other similar or dis-similar benefices incompatible with one another, not more than two in number, provided that if they were parish churches or their perpetual vicarages the fruits rents and profits of each of them should not exceed a yearly value of a hundred gold florins of the (papal) *camera*, according to the common valuation,[1] all which is more fully contained in the said letters.

We therefore (wishing in consideration of your aforesaid merits, to show a fuller measure of favour to you, who, as you allege, hold *inter alia* the said church of Tylston, whose fruits, rents and profits do not exceed, according to the aforesaid valuation, a yearly value of twelve pounds sterling, and who have, by vigour of the said letters and dispensation, obtained no other benefice incompatible with the said church of Tylston; absolving you and holding you absolved hereby, with a view only to the taking effect of these presents, from all sentences of excommunication, suspension and interdict and other ecclesiastical sentences censures and pains which you may in any way have incurred, *ipso facto* or by judicial sentence, for any reason soever; and counting as mentioned herein all the other benefices without cure which you hold, and the benefices with and without cure which you are expecting, and those in and to which you have any right whatsoever, how many soever and of whatsoever kind they be, and the true yearly value of their fruits, rents and profits,) yielding to your petition in this manner do by the tenour of these presents amplify and extend by papal authority the said dispensation, with the exchange clause and all other clauses contained in the aforesaid letters, to parish churches or their perpetual vicarages of whatsoever valuation or yearly value may be their fruits, rents and profits, notwithstanding the foregoing and apostolic constitutions and ordinances and all the *nonobstante* conditions laid down by the said predecessor Pius in the said letters, and other things to the contrary. To no man therefore shall it be lawful to infringe this our absolution amplification and extension, or to dare to go against it, and whosoever shall presume to attempt to do so, let him know that he shall incur the indignation of Almighty God and His apostles Peter and Paul. Dated at St. Peter's, Rome, in the year of the Incarnation 1475, 5 Id: October, the fifth year (*of the pontificate of Sixtus IV.*)

APPENDIX B. iii.

CLERICAL SUBSIDY ROLL 1 RICHARD III. $\frac{18}{446}$ PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE.

EXTRACT. Ac eo quod Johannes Coventrensis et Lichfeldensis episcopus certificavit prefatos Thesaurarium et Barones quod Willelmus Abbas Monasterii beate Marie de Valle Regali in Comitatu Cestrie, Abbas Monasterii beate Marie de Whalley in Comitatu Lancastrie, Ricardus Abbas Monasterii sancte Werburge Cestre ac magister Thomas Twemlow clericus de Tilston in comitatu Cestrie, Rector ecclesie parochialis de Astbury infra Archidiaconatum Cestrie dicte Coventrensis et Lichfeldensis diocesi, post et citra ultimum diem ultime convocationis qui erat decimus sextus dies mensis Aprilis anno Domini millesimo cccclxxxi^{mo}, et ante primum diem concessionis et infra ultimum Diem solutionis dicte integre X^{li*} in dicta ultima convocatione concesse, per laicales personas et potestatem injuriose indictati accusati et incarcerati fuerent.

1. *i.e.*, the valuation of Pope Nicholas IV.
* *i.e.*, £10.

TRANSLATION.

"And to such an extent, that John bishop of Coventry and Lichfield has certified the said Treasury and Barons (of the Exchequer) that William abbot of the Monastery of the blessed Mary of Vale Royal in the County of Chester, the abbot of the Monastery of the blessed Mary of Whalley in the County of Lancaster, Richard abbot of the Monastery of St. Werburgh at Chester, and Thomas Twemlow, graduate and clerk, of Tilston in the County of Chester, Rector of the parish Church of Astbury in the Chester Archdeaconry of the said diocese of Coventry and Lichfield, since and on this side of the last day of the last Convocation which was the sixteenth day of the month of April in the year 1481, and before the first day of the concession, and later than the last day of the payment of the said sum of £10 granted in the last convocation, were by laymen and by lay authority wrongfully indicted, accused and imprisoned."

APPENDIX C. i.

TWEMLOW WILLS.

Extracted from the District Registry of the Probate Division of His Majesty's High Court of Justice at Chester.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN the thirteenth day of January anno Domini 1620[1] I JOHN TWEMLOWE the elder of Betchton in the County of Chester Yeoman beinge somethinge diseased in bodie but in good and pfect memory thankes be to God therefore doe make this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge First and above all thinges I comend and bequeath my Soule to Almightie God my onlie Saviour and Redeemer hopinge and steadfastlie beleevinge that by His death and precious bloudsheddinge I shal be one of the number of those that shal be saved and my bodie to be buryed in the Prshe Churche of Sandbach at the discretion of my executors. And for my worldlie goodes and estate unassigned or unbequeathed I doe thereby geve distribute and bequeath the same in manner and form followinge that is to saie to the poore and most needie people of the said Prshe of Sandbach the some of five pounds. To the use and intente that my executors and their heires and the Churchwardens of the foresaid Prshe and their successors shal yearlie and for ever hereafter imploy and sett forth to interrest and profitt the said some of V li. and that the yearlie interrest thereof cominge shal be divided and distributed amongst such needie poore people yearlie upon Good Frydaie as my executors and their heires and the said Churchwardens and their successors shal think fitt. Itm I give towards the reparacone of the foresaid Church VIs. VIIId. Itm I give to Lawrence Woode Clerke and Vicar of Sandbach VIs. VIIId. Itm I geve and bequeath unto my sonn John Twemlow my son in lawe Hughe Broome and my cosine[2] George Twemlow of Sandbach to the use and behoofe of my daughter Margerie the some of one hundred and ten pounds Itm I geve and bequeath to the said John Twemlow Hughe Brome and George Twemlow to the use of my daughter Elizabeth the some of V li and to the use of my grandchild John[3] Meakine V li and to the use and behoofe of the five daughters of my son in lawe Thomas Meakine XX li apeece Itm I give and bequeath to my daughter Margrett the some of X li and to my grandchild and goddaughter Margrett Broome[4] their daughter XX li Itm I give to my godchildren John Gallymore Elline Merriell John Merriell John Jacsone and Margerie the daughter of Rauffe Brooke to every of them VIs VIIId. apeece and to Elline Furnivall of Sandbach widowe XXs. Itm I give unto John Brome and Willm. Rathbone of Sandbach all such monie as they or either of them doe oughe unto me Itm I give unto my brother George Twemlow the some of XLs. besides other XLs. in monie he ougheth me Itm I give and bequeath unto my sonn John Twemlowe all my household stuffe corne cattell heay and all implemts of huswiffrie and husbandrie except one bedde and a cheste which I give unto my daughter Margery Itm my mind and will is that my executors shal paie unto Margrett Twemlowe of Betchton[5]

1. Old Style, 1621 New Style.
2. Cousin might mean nephew.
3. Buried 13th August 1621 (Kelsall).
4. Bapt. 12th February 1607.
5. Not identified.

VIII. li which I oughe unto her Itm all the rest and residue of my goodes chattells cattells whatsoever after my debts paid and funerall expenses discharged I do hereby give and bequeath to my son John Twemlowe (savinge and excepte the some three scoore pounds and which my mind ys and I doe hereby give to Hughe Brome my son in lawe and George Twemlowe of Sandbach betwixt them equallie) and of this my last Will and Testament I ordaine and make the said John Twemlowe my sonn and the said Hughe Brome and George Twemlowe of Sandbach my true and lawful executors and my neighbours Richard Kettle and Rauffe Merriell of Hassall Green Overseers of the same and I doe revoke all former Willes by me made

Signed JOHNIS TWEMLOWE

These being witnesses
RICHARD STEELE
GEORGE TWEMLOWE of Nauntwich.

A true and perfect Inventory of all the goods cattells chattells debtes of John Twemlowe late of Betchton in the Parishe of Sandbach in the Countie of Chester Yoman deceased seene vewed and praysed by Rauffe Merriell Richard Kettle Randle Stanway and William Shawe the XXIIIrd daie of February in the eighteinth yeare of the Raigne of our most gracious Sovraigne Lord James by the Grace of God of England France and Ireland Kinge Defender of the Faith &c. and of Scotland the LIIIIth Anno Domini 1620. (1621 new style).

Imprimis two oxene	VII li.
Itm foure Drawen bullocks	X li.
Itm foure kine and three heifers	XII li. XIIIs. IIIId.
Itm foure younge beastes and three caulves	VIII li. XIIIs. IIIId.
Itm A mare and two coultes	IIII li.
Itm two swine	XXs.
Itm Corne and Haie	XI li. XVIs.
Itm brasse and pewter	VIs. Xd.
Itm his apparell and monye in his purse	IIII li. Xs.
Itm Beddings and napperye ware	X li.
Itm All manner of Tryne[1] ware	XXs.
Itm Broches, yowborts,[2] pothooks and tonges	Vs.
Itm Bords formes cubboards bedstocks and such like ware	III li.
Itm One Tubstone and swine trooe	IIIs. IIIId.
Itm Beeffe and bacone	III li.
Itm butter and cheese	XIs.
Itm Monie found in his keepinge	XIIII li. Xs.
Itm more monye found in his keepinge	XX li.

[3]Some is one hundred fiftie one pounds tenpence.

Debts oughinge unto the said testator from divers severall persons by Specialtie[4] the whole some whereof is five hundred nyntie seaven pounds seaven shillings foure pence.

Debtes oughing likewise unto the said testator without specialtie the whole some whereof is fiftie twelve pounds ninteine shillings eight pence (i.e. £62 19 8)

The wholle and totalle some in all is eight hundred eleaven pounds seaven shillinge tenpence.

Proved in the Consistory Court of Chester on the 27th April 1621.

1621, 12th May, heriott rendered. An ox, £3 10 0

Wilbraham M.S.S. at Delamere.

1. Treen ware. Wooden tubs, etc.
2. ?Yokes and bows, for the oxen.
3. *i.e.*, "The sum total."
4. Speciality debts are those secured by deed, bill, or note of hand, signed by the parties.

APPENDIX C. ii.

WILL OF JOHN TWEMLOW OF BETCHTON.

Made 13th May 1659. Proved 12th April 1660, in London (Somerset House, Volume Nabbs, folio 70.) In the name of God amen the thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred fiftynine. I John Twemlow of Betchton in the Countie of Chester yeoman beeing weake in body but of sound and perfect memorie praise and glory be given to God therefore Do ordaine and make this my last will and testament in the manner and forme following.

First I give and bequeath my soul to Almighty God that gave it and my body to the earth from whence it came to be buried at the discretion of my executors in sure and certaine hope of Resurrection through Jesus Christ my Saviour. Imprimis after my debts paid and my funerall expenses discharged I give and bequeath unto my sister Margery Twemlow forty shillings Also I give and bequeath unto Randle Broome son of Thomas Broome of Betchton twentie shillings Also I give to John Twemlow sonne of George Twemlow of Sandbach Tenn shillings Also I give and bequeath to Cicely Ambersley two shillings Also all the rest and residue of my goods Cattell or chattels of what kind or nature soever they bee, and in whose hands any bill bond or any other specialities are is or may in or at anie time hereafter bee found in or any other of my Goods whatsoever I freely bequeath them and every of them to Mary Twemlow my deare and loving wife and to George Twemlow my sonne to be equally divided between them Onely my will and mind is that Mary Twemlow my wife shall have liberty to dispose of one large chest of fine linen to whomsoever she pleases during her naturall life Also I ordaine and make my well beloved sonne George Twemlow my onely sole executor of this my last will and Testament. That he the said George Twemlow will truly and faithfully see this my last will performed to the utmost of his power according to the trust and faithfullness which I ever reposed in him. And lastly I make utterly void all and every former will and wills heretofore made by me In witness whereunto I the said John Twemlow have sett my hand and seale the day and year above written, one thousand six hundred fiftynine (John Twemlow his marke)

Sealed signed and published to be the last will and testament of the said John Twemlow in presence of Thomas Smith William Chel James Lightfoote of Arclid his marke. Debts owing to the Testator without specialitie Randall Chell of Betchton twenty-five shillings William Podmore of Crew three pounds Elizabeth Olton of Crew widow fortyfive shillings Richard Shawe of the Dingle in Sandbach twelve shillings. This will was proved at London the Twelvth day of Aprill in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and sixty Before the Judges for Probate of Wills and granting Administrations lawfully authorised By the oath of George Twemlow Sole executor in the said will named To whom administration was granted of all and singular the goods Chattels and Debts of the said deceased he being by Commission sworn truly to Administer the same.

Commissioners William Liversage Esq., Randall Shillitoe, Randall Shillitoe, Randall Poole, Thomas Smith.

There is no Inventory.

APPENDIX C. iii.

WILL OF GEORGE TWEMLOWE OF ARCLID.

EXTRACTED FROM THE DISTRICT REGISTRY OF THE PROBATE DIVISION OF HIS MAJESTY'S HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE AT CHESTER.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN the second day of December in the year of our Lord Christ one thousand seven hundred and four I GEORGE TWEMLOWE of Arclid in the County of Chester Yeoman being weak in body yet in pfect sound mind and memory praised be God for it yet calling to mind the certainty of death and the uncertainty of the time thereof do make and ordaine this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme following AND first and principally I commend my Soule into the hands of Almighty God our Heavenly Father trusting assuredly by his

mercy and meritts of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ I shall inherit everlasting life and my body I committ to the earth to be decently buried at the discretion of my executors hereafter named AND as for my temporall estate not by me already settled and disposed off I give and devise the same in manner following AND first it is my will and mind that my funeral expenses together with all such debts as I shall owe at the time of my death shall be fully and justly satisfied and paid AND whereas by a settlement by me heretofore made of my messuage and tenement and certaine lands and hereditaments thereto belonging in Smallwood in the County aforesaid bearing date the nineteenth day of October in the eleaventh year of his late Ma'ties raigne King William the Third over England yt my said lands and premises in Smallwood aforesaid by vertue of a tearme of two hundred years therein menc'oned to commence from and im'ediately after the decease of my dear wife Mary Twemlowe stand charged with the sume of eighty pounds of lawful English money to be raised and paid within one year after my said wifes decease by such wayes and meanes as in and by the said Settlement is appointed to and for the use and benefit of such of my daughters and younger sonns as shall be living and not preferred in marriage of the time of the decease of my said wife in such portion manner and form as I should appoint Now therefore I doe hereby direct and appoint that the said sume of eighty pounds shall immediately after the same becomes due by vertue of my said Settlement be paid and distributed to four of my said younger children in manner following To witt to my sonn Joseph Twemlowe twenty pounds to my sonn Nathan Twemlowe twenty pounds To my daughter Hannah Twemlowe twenty pounds to my daughter Elizabeth Twemlowe twenty pounds AND for my psonall estate of what nature or kind soever I dispose thereof as followeth First I give to my said dear wife Mary Twemlowe two cowes which she shall chuse out of all the stock I shall have at my death also I give to my said wife such of my beds as she shall make choice of with the bedding bolster curtains and all other furniture to such bed belonging Also I doe appoint that my said dear wife shall distribute and dispose of one chest of my fine linen standing in the parler belowe amongst my children in such manner as she shall think fit AND one large table in the parler chamber with all chears and stooles that stand in the parler chamber together with what brasse and pewter she shall make choice of for her own use to be enjoyed and disposed by her for her life Also I give to my three sonnes John Twemlowe William Twemlowe and Josiah Twemlowe each of them five shillings apiece which with provision I have heretofore made for them is in full of theire respective childs parts or portions Also I give to my son in law Randle Furnivall five shillings Also I give to my son in law Peter Somerfield tenn pounds Also I give to my son Joseph Twemlowe over and above the twenty pounds before menconed the further sum of fourty pounds and also to my said sonne Nathan the like sume of fourty pounds (over and besides the sume of twenty pounds before given to him as aforesaid) Also I give to my daughter Hannah Twemlowe over and besides the sume of twenty pounds before given her the further sume of one hundred and twenty poundes Also I give to my said daughter Elizabeth Twemlowe the sume of one hundred and twenty pounds over and besides the said twenty pounds so before menconed to be given to her as aforesaid AND as for and concerning all the rest residue and remainder of my personall estate not herein by me given and disposed of I do hereby order will and appoint that the same shall be given and disposed of to such pson and psons as my executors hereafter named shall think fitt and of this my Will I do hereby constitute my said dear wife Mary Twemlowe and my sonne Josiah Twemlowe executrix and executor AND revoking all other Wills I publish this to be my last Will and Testament IN WITNESSE whereof I the said George Twemlowe have hereunto putt my hand and seale and published this as my last Will and Testament the day and year first above written

GEORGE TWEMLOW (L.S.)

Signed sealed and published by the testator in the presence of

JOHN TWEMLOW DANIEL BARNET

JOHN HALL

A true and pfect Inventory of the good cattle and chattells of George Twemlowe late of Arclid in the County of Chester Yeoman apprised and vallued the twenty eight day of December 1704 by John Hough and Edward Banister Apprisers.

Imprimis	In the best chamber.		
Two beddes with bedding and furniture thereto belonging	09	00	00
Chaires tables and other goods in the same roome	02	10	00

In the little chamber.			
Two bedsteads one feather bedd one chest and other furniture	03	000	00
In the Chamber over ye house and staires.			
Two bedds with bedding and some other goods in the same roome	06	10	00
In the dwelling house.			
One long table two formes one presse one long screene clock and case with other goods	05	10	00
In the parlor.			
One bedd 2 chests linery cupboard one presse and some other furniture	06	10	00
Brasse and pewter	08	00	03
Goods in the Pantry Celler and dineing place	01	00	00
Coopy ware	02	00	00
In the kitchen.			
One cheese press kneading turnell and disboard	01	05	00
In linnen and napery ware	16	00	00
Six sides of bacon	02	10	00
Tacks and winnow Sheets	01	00	00
Iron ware of all sorts	01	00	00
Towe and yarne	01	10	00
Eleaven cowes two heifers and 2 sterks[1]	35	10	00
Two horses and one mare	13	00	00
Two young swine	01	05	00
Hay in the buildinge	14	00	00
Barley in the Barne and howse	16	10	00
Wheat in the Garners	09	00	00
Peaze and Oates	04	10	00
A stacke of wheat strawe	00	15	00
Three carts tumbrells plowes and harrowes and horse geares	06	00	00
Six brakes some boards wheele timber	01	00	00
A Malt Mill and other goods in the shop	01	10	00
Goods unmenc'oned	01	00	00
Debts by specialty	194	00	00
Debts without specialty	015	04	00
Wearing apparell and money in purse	010	00	00
	390	09	00

Proved in the Consistory Court of Chester on the 12th June 1705.

APPENDIX C. iv.

WILL OF JOSIAH TWEMLOWE OF BETCHTON.

EXTRACTED FROM THE DISTRICT REGISTRY OF THE PROBATE DIVISION OF HIS MAJESTY'S HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE AT CHESTER.

(*Non-Official.*)

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN I JOSIAH TWEMLOWE of Betchton in the County of Chester Gen. being att present in good health and of a sound and disposing mind and understanding praised be God for the same do make this my last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge that is to say First and principally I committ my Soul into the hands of Almighty God my Creator trusting through his mercy and the only merritts of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my sins. Secondly I committ my body to the earth to be decently interred according to the discrec'on of my executrix and ex'rs hereinafter named And thirdly as concerning my temporall estate wherewith it hath pleased Almighty God to bestow

1. Yearling heifers.

upon mee and bless me with I give devise bequeath and dispose thereof as hereinafter followeth And first I give devise and bequeath the two closes or parcells of land situate in Betchton afores'd commonly called the two Mossleys to my wife for her life And from and after her death I give devise and bequeath the said two closes or parcels of land As alsoe all my messuage or tenemt in Betchton afores'd with all the lands and hereditaments to the same belonging or therewith now used or enjoyed or reputed or taken to bee as parte or parcell, thereof To Anne Amson daughter of John Amson of the Citty of Chester Esq. during all my right and interest therein And my further will and mind is that what closes meadows or parcells of land which I had in exchange with or from John Shore and which are now included in the now originall lease of the said messuage and tenement in Betchton shall goe and bee enjoyed according as the said tenemt is settled during the lease of the same Item my will and mind is that the said Anne Amson shall have the tythe of all and all manner of corne and graine yearly comeing growing or increasing or to come growe or increase in out of or upon the said messuage or tenemt and premises in Betchton aforesd or any parte thereof As alsoe she the said Anne Amson shall likewise have all that my messuage or cottage burgage or tenemt in Congleton in the said County with all the buildings hereditamts and appurtences to the same belonging from and after the death of my wife (it being my Will and mind that my said wife shall have and enjoy the same tyths and messuage or cottage burgage or tenemt in Congleton aforesd with all the buildings hereditamts and appurtences during her naturall life) To have and to hold the said tyths in Betchton aforesd and the messuage cottage burgage or tenemt in Congleton aforesd with all the hereditamts appurtences to the same belonging from and after the death of my said wife to the said Anne Amson her heires and assignes for ever Item whereas by Indenture tripartite bearing date tenth day of September in the second yeare of the raigne of Queen Anne late of England &c., Anno Dni 1703 and made between George Twemlowe of Arclid in the County of Chester Ye'om Mary his wife John Twemlowe of Arclid aforesd Ye'om son and heir apparent of the said George Twemlowe and Mary his wife And mee the said Josiah Then by the name of Josiah Twemlowe of Arclid aforesd Ye'om of the first parte John Hulme of Church Lawton in the said County of Chester Ye'om and Edward Bannister of Allostock in the sd County of the second parte And Hannah Hughson of Smallwood in the sd County of Chester Widdow of the thirde parte which sd Indenture is a Settlem't of a messuage and tenem't with the lands and hereditamts to the same belonging in Smallwood in the said County of Chester late heretofore in the possession of Robert Thorley his assignees or underten'ts To the sev'rall powers provisoes condic'ons and restricc'ons and und'r and subject to the rents and payments thereinafter menc'oned expressed and declared In which said Indenture amongst other things therein contained there is a provisoe contained in these words or to the effect following that is to say Provided alsoe further that it shall and may be lawfull to and for the said Josiah Twemlowe (after hee shall have paid the aforesd sume of four score pounds to or to the use of his said brothers and sisters according to the tenor and effect of the second provisoe in these presents conteyned or that the same shall be raised by any the ways or means aforesd) att any time or times during his natural life by any his deed or deeds writeing or writeings to be by him subscribed in the presence of three or more credible witnesses or by his last Will and Testamt in writeing to bee by him subscribed sealed and published in the presence of three or more such witnesses to charge all and singular the aforesd premises or any parte or parcell thereof or to demise lease or mortgage the same or any parte thereof to any person or persons whatsoever for any tearme or number of years as he in his discrec'on shall think fitt with or for the raising of any sume or sumes of money not exceeding in the whole the sume of one hundred pounds to and for the use and benefitt of such person and persons and for such uses intents and purposes And to bee paid at such dayes and times and in such manner and forme as the said Josiah Twemlowe shall by his s'd deed or last Will and Testam't as aforesd declare direct lymitt or appoint As in and by the said in parte recited Indenture amongst other things therein contained relac'on being thereunto had may more plainely and att large appeare And whereas the said sume of four score pounds in the s'd provisoe menc'oned is already paid according to the true meaning of the said Indenture Now I the said Josiah Twemlowe in p'sueance of the lib'ty or power to me reserved in in the said Indenture and provisoe aforesd or any other power enableing mee doe hereby charge the aforesd premisses in Smallwood aforesd with the sume of one Hundred pounds to and for the use and benefitt of such persons and in such proporc'on manner and forme as hereinafter followeth that is to say To Elizabeth Twemlowe (eldest daughter of my brother John Twemlowe) the sume of five pounds To John Twemlowe and William Twemlowe (sons of my brother William Twemlowe) the sume of tenn pounds a piece To my brother Joseph Twemlowe the sume of twenty pounds To Elizabeth Jolley and Mary Jolley (daughters of my brother-in-law Thomas Jolley) the sume of tenne pounds a piece

To Martha Somerfield and Mary Somerfield (daughters of my brother-in-law Peter Somerfield) the sume of tenn pounds a piece To my neece Hannah Smallwood the sume of five pounds To Mary Furnivall (daughter of my nephew Randle Furnival) the sume of five pounds And to Amy Lingard of Congleton the sume of five pounds All which said last menc'oned sumes doe in the whole amount to the sume of one hundred pounds which said one hundred pounds I doe hereby appoint shall bee paid within twelve months next after the death of my wife Item I give and bequeath my two seats in the Middle Gallery of the Parish Church of Sandbach to my wife for her life And from and after her decease I give and bequeath the said two seats to the said Anne Amson her heirs and assignees for ever Item I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Hitchinson (daughter of my cousin Sarah Hitchinson) the sume of five pounds Item I give and bequeath to my cousin Margaret Mawkin[1] the sume of five pounds Item I give and bequeath to John Amson the younger (son of the said John Amson) the sume of twenty pounds Item I give and bequeath to Mary Amson (daughter of the said John Amson) the sume of one hundred pounds Item I give and bequeath to Elizabeth Amson (another daughter of the said John Amson) the sume of one hundred pounds Item I give and bequeath to my servant Margaret Venables the sume of five pounds Item my will and mind is that my wife shall have the moderate use dureing her naturall life not onely of the plate hereinafter perticularly menc'oned but alsoe all other my goods cattle chattells and personall estate whatsoever not before hereby given or disposed of she payeing and dischargeing out of the same my debts (if any I shall happen to owe at the time of my death) and also my funerall expenses And from and after the decease of my s'd wife Then I doe hereby give and bequeath my plate hereinafter perticularly men'coned in manner followinge that is to say to the s'd John Amson the younger my silver tanckett To the s'd Mary Amson my silver salver and halfe a dozen silver spoones To the said Elizabeth Amson my silver salt and four large silver spoones and six teaspoones and to my sister Elizabeth Jolley three silver spoones Item I give and bequeath all the rest and residue of my goods cattle chattles and personall estate whatsoever not before hereby given or disposed of from and after the decease of my said wife (over and besides or above the dischargeing of my said debtes and funerall expenses) To the said Anne Amson the s'd Mary Amson and the s'd Elizabeth Amson equally to be divided amongst them share and share alike And lastly I doe hereby nominate and appoint my s'd loving wife executrix and the s'd John Amson Esq. Executor of this my last Will and Testam't hereby revokeing and makeing void all former or other Will or Wills by mee at any time made and declareing this to bee my last Will and Testam't IN WITNESSE whereof I the s'd Josiah Twemlowe have hereunto putt my hand and seale the tenth day of October in the tenth yeare of the raigne of our Sovrigne Lord George by the Grace of God of Great Brittaine &c., Anno D'ni 1723

JOSIAH TWEMLOW (L.S.)

Signed sealed and published to bee the last Will and Testam't of the s'd testator Josiah Twemlowe in in the presence of

WM. DARWALL
JONATHAN SWAINE
RAN. RODE

A true and perfect Inventory of all and singular the goods and chattles creditts and personall estate of Josiah Twemlowe late of Betchton in the County of Chester Gen. deceased appraised and vallued by us whose names are subscribed the sixteenth day of September in the second yeare of the raigne of our Soveraigne Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Brittaine &c., Annog Din. 1728 as followeth.

	£	s.	d.
Impr Thirteen cowes and a bull	42	00	00
Itm Two stirkes	04	00	00
Itm Two mares and a colt	10	10	00
Itm Three swine	04	04	00
Itm Corne unthrashed	24	00	00
Itm Hay	18	00	00
Itm Four carts plowes and harrowes	04	00	00
Itm Horse gears	02	00	00

1. This name is also spelt "Meakin," "Makin," "Machin," or "Malkin." I do not know who this woman was. She was not descended from Elizabeth Twemlow, who married Thomas Meakin in 1604.

	£	s.	d.
Itm in the house place one clock and case	02	00	00
Itm One dresser of drawers seven chaires two ovill tables and one screene	03	12	00
Itm One grate grid iron fire shovel and tongs	01	10	00
Itm in the best parlour two ovill tables and a mahoganey table twelve chaires and a looking glasse and one fendor	05	03	00
Itm in the dineing room six lether chaires one table some pictures and a standing cupboard with glasses and earthenware in	02	00	00
Itm in the little parlour one bed and furniture belonging to it two chests one table with drawers in and severall small things	04	00	00
Itm in the next roome where servants usually lye in one bed and furniture belonging to it	01	00	00
Itm in the roome over the best parlour one bed and furniture belonging to it eleven caine chaires one lookinge glass, window hangings, fender, tongs and a little square table	14	00	00
Itm in the roome over the little dineing roome one bed and furniture belonging to it, three chaires a small table, and a small looking glasse	05	00	00
Itm in the Clossit one desk one table with drawers in and one trunck with books in and severall other small things	01	00	00
Itm in the garratt over the little dineing roome chamber, one bed and furniture belonging to it and two small chaires	01	00	00
Itm in the great garratt and in the little garratt att the staire head some corne malte a tryer and some other small things	00	10	00
Itm in the roome over the little parlour one joynt bed and furniture belonging to it and a hanging presse, one large coffer, three chaires and six buffit stooles	03	10	00
Itm in the roome over the house two beds and furniture belonging to them and some small things	01	10	00
Itm in the roome over the kitchen a parcell of new cheese	15	00	00
Itm in the kitchin one jack and grate and all iron ware	02	00	00
Itm Pewter	03	00	00
Itm One furnace pair brasse potts and brasse pans	04	00	00
Itm One cheese presse coopery ware and wooden ware	02	00	00
Itm in the work house a malt milne maw[1] and wedges and other implements of husbandry	01	10	00
Itm Nappery ware and other linnen toe and yarne	06	00	00
Itm A silver tanckott and some other plate	12	00	00
Itm Debt due to the deced	510	00	00
Itm Desperate debt	001	00	00
Itm Goods omitted	000	05	00
Itm wareing apparrell and money in purse sadle and bridle	010	00	00
Tot.	721	04	00

JOSEPH ANTROBUS
JONATHAN SWAINE
} Appraisers.

Proved in the Consistory Court of Chester on the 31st October 1728.

1. A large wooden mallet.

APPENDIX C. v.

WILL OF GEORGE TWEMLOW OF SHELTON.

THIS IS THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of me GEORGE TWEMLOW of Shelton in the Parish of Stoke in the County of Stafford Gentleman First I will and direct that all my Just Debts funeral Expences and the Charge of the Probate of this my Will with all my incidental Expences attending the Execution thereof be paid and Discharged by my Executor herein-after named out of my Personal Estate Item I Give and Devise All that my Messuage Farm and Tenement with the Lands Hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging situate lying and being in Smallwood in the County of Chester, and in the Several Holdings Tenures or Occupations of James Tomkinson and Thomas Pickering Yeomen as Tenants thereof respectively to or under me unto my Son John Twemlow of Macclesfield in the said County of Chester his Heirs and Assigns UPON TRUST that he do and SHALL by Demise Sale or Mortgage of the said premises or any part thereof for any Term not exceeding the Term of Five hundred years raise and Levy the full Sum of One hundred pounds and pay the same to my Grandson John[1] Twemlow of Sandbach in the said County of Chester when he arrives at the age of Twenty and One years. And from and after payment thereof and Subject thereto Upon this further Trust and confidence and to the End Intent and purpose that my said Trustee his Heirs and Assigns Do and Shall permit and suffer All and every the Children of my Sons George and Thomas Twemlow lawfully begotten or to be begotten or whether born in my life time or after my decease and his her and their Heirs and assigns respectively (equally to be divided and as Tenants in Common if more than one not as Joint Tenants nor to accrue by Survivorship) and if only one then Such only Child his or her Heirs or Assigns quietly and peaceably to have hold Occupy possess and enjoy all and Singular the aforesaid Premises and to have receive and take the Rents Issues and profits thereof to his her and their own proper use and behoof for ever Provided always that in case there Shall be no such Child or Children or being Such they shall Dye unmarried or without any Issue of their Body or Bodies Lawfully begotten Then and in Such Case I give and Devise the same Premises Lands and Hereditaments unto my Grandson Thomas Twemlow of Liverpoole in the County of Lancaster Merchant his Heirs and Assigns for ever Provided also that in Case my said Grandson John Twemlow shall happen to depart this Life before he arrives to, and attains the age of Twenty and One Years Then and in Such Case I do hereby Order and direct that the said One hundred pounds shall Sink into the said Estate upon which the same is made a charge for the benefit of the person or persons who shall be intitled thereto Item I give and Devise All that my Messuage Farm or Tenement Situate lying and being in Artclid in the said County of Chester and in the Tenure or Occupation of the said Thomas Pickering as Tenant to or under me with the Lands Grounds Tythes Hereditaments and Appurtenances thereunto belonging (formerly purchased by me from the Right Hnble. the Earl of Cholmondoley and his Son or one of them or his or their Trustee or Trustees) unto my Said Grandson Thomas Twemlow of Liverpoole his heirs and assigns for ever charged and chargeable with the Sum of Four hundred pounds of Lawful Money of Great Britain to be payable and paid within the space of Six Months next after my decease in Manner herein after mentioned (that is to say) Two hundred and Sixty one pounds part thereof to George Twemlow Lowndes and Mary[2] Lowndes children of my Grand-daughter Mary Lowndes Share and Share alike And One hundred and Thirty nine pounds other part and the Residue and remainder thereof unto my Grand Children John and Martha Twemlow of Macclesfield Share and Share alike the Survivor of the said George Twemlow Lowndes and Mary Lowndes to take the whole of the said Two hundred and Sixty one pounds in case of the death of either of them before he or she attains the age of Twenty one years and in like manner the Survivor of the said John and Martha Twemlow to take the whole of the said One hundred and Thirty nine pounds in case he or She shall not live to attain the age of Twenty and One years And whereas my said Granddaughter Mary Lowndes hath Entered into One Bond or Obligation with a penalty thereto annexed conditioned for the payment of Two hundred and Thirty nine pounds to me or my Executor within the space of Six months to be computed from the day of the Death of JOHN HILDITCH[3] of Sandbach aforesaid Gentleman (now lately deceased). NOW

1. The son of the testator's younger son Joseph. This John was born in 1765 at Stockport.
2. Living unmarried Dec., 1808. Witness to marriage of Charles Rickards and Frances Broome. Earwaker's Sandbach, p. 75.
3. John Hilditch was the husband of the testator's daughter Anne, and the father of Mary Hilditch, who married first Francis Lowndes, and secondly Thos. Broome.

I do hereby give and bequeath the said Bond and the money thereby Secured to the said George Twemlow Lowndes and Mary Lowndes her said Son and Daughter AND LASTLY all the rest Residue and Remainder of my Real and Personal Estate of what Nature Kind or Quality Soever or wheresoever I give and Devise the same and every part and parts thereof to my said Two Grand Children John and Martha Twemlow of Macclesfield and Do nominate constitute and appoint my said Son John Twemlow Sole Executor of this Will hereby revoaking all former Ones by me at any time heretofore made and declaring this to be my Last Will and Testament And I do hereby Order and direct that my said Trustee shall and lawfully may deduct retain and be reimbursed from and out of the said Trust Estate all such Costs Charges Damages and Expences as he shall or may Sustain or be put in or about the Trusts aforesaid IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the Fourteenth Day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Seventy Seven.

GEO. TWEMLOW (L/S.)

Signed Sealed published and Declared by the Testator as and for his last Will and Testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our Names as Witnesses in his presence at his request and in the presence of each other (the interlineations being first made).

THOS. SIMPSON
JNO. BOURNE
ANN HOLLBROCK

Proved 29th April 1779.

APPENDIX D. i.

THIS INDENTURE MADE the sixtynth daie of June in the fourtith yeare of our sovereign Ladie Elizabeth by the Grace of God of England France and Ireland Queene Defender of the Faith &c. BETWENE Randle Davemport of Henburie in the Countie of Chester Esquire and William Davemport sone and heire Apparente to the saide Randle on th'one p'tie and John Ellyson of Betchton in the sayd Countie husbandeman on the other p'tie WITNESSETH that the said Randle Davemport and William Davemport in considerac'on of the some of fyftie pounds of lawful money of England to the saide Randle Davemport by the saide John Ellison before the'n sealinge of these p'sents truelie paide whereof the saide Randle and William Davemport confesse themselves satisfied and thereof do acquyte the said John Ellyson his executors administrators and assignes and evrie of them for ever by these p'sents HAVE demysed covenanted graunted sett or to ferme lett unto the said John Ellison that messuage or t'ente with the appurt's situate lyinge and beinge in Betchton aforesaide and now in the occupation of the said John Ellison or his assigne or assignes together with all and singular houses buildings orchards yoards gardens and lands meadows leasowes pastures outpastures commons of pasture and turbarie with all croppes and toppes of trees and wychwoode growing or that shall growe in or uppon the premises as heretofore hath been accustomed (the wychwood to be made in two banks or baches called the Crymble bank and the Morre bank p'cel of the premises and other woods therein growing onelie excepted) with free liberty to get digge and take marle in and uppon the premises or anie pte thereof for the betteringe of the same And with all other profitts com'odities easements and advantages whatsoever they be or shall be to the saide messuage or tenemte belonging or therewith heretofore usually sett lett to ferme used or occupied with all and singular their appurtenances TO HAVE hold occupye and peaceably and quietly to enjoye all and singular the said messuage or tenem'te and all other the premisses with all and singular their appurt's to the said John Ellyson his executors ad'mors and assignes and evrie of them to his and their most proffit and advantage from the daie of the date of these presents unto the ende of the terme and during all the terme of the lyves of the said John Ellyson Elizabeth Ellyson now wief of the said John and of Richard Ellyson sonne of the said John and Elizabeth for and during all their natural lyves and the natural lyffe of the longest lyver of theyme. Yelding and payinge therefore during the sayd terme to the saide Randle Davemport his heires or assignes the some of twenty two shillings six pence of lawful English money at the feaste daies of the Nativity of St. John Baptist and St Martin the Bishoppe in in winter by even porc'ons or in twenty daies eyther of the saide feastes next ensuing and an herriott

at the decease of everie p'son dying tenante in or to the p'misses with Avarage[1] and Rente hennes yerely as heretofore hath been accustomed and all other services usuall during or within the saide terme And yf yt happen the saide yerelie rente of XXIIs. VId. to be behinde and unpaide in p'te or in all at any feaste day or day wherein the same ought to be paide And by the space of twenty daies next ensuing eyther of the saide feastes no sufficient distresse or distresses can or maie be founde in or uppon the premisses aforesaide whereby the saide Randle Davemport his heires or assignes maie lawfully have and take the foresaid Rent with the average thereof if anie such be That then it shall be lawfull to and for the saide Randle Davemport his heires or assignes everie of them into all the afforesaide messuage tenem't and all other the recyted p'misses to re-enter and the same to have againe re-enjoye and repossesse as in his or theire former estate this Indenture or any thinge therein conteyned to be contrarie notwithstandinge AND the saide John Ellyson doth covenante and graunte to and with the saide Randle Davemport and William Davemport and their heires by these p'sentes That he the saide John Ellyson his executors and assignes shall and will kepe up and maynteane all reparac'ons in and uppon the saide messuage sufficientlie and tenantablie during the saide terme having sufficient great tymber to him and them allowed and delivered at all tymes needfull for the necessarie reparing thereof by the saide Randle and William Davemport their heires or assignes or their bayliffe or officer for the tyme being And that when and so often as the saide Randle Davemport or his heires shall within the saide terme be appoynted to serve the Queen's Ma'tie her heires or successors in the warres in his or their proper person That then the saide John Ellison yf he be then lyving and able to serve or otherwise his assigne or assignes shall in his or their p'per p'son be ready furnished with armour and weapons to serve under and in the Retynue of the saide Randle Davemport or his heires in the same warres Also when and so often as the said Randle Davemport or his heires shall within the saide terme be compelled to set forth or furnishe anie men within the Lordshippe of Bechton afforesaide for and towards the same warres that then he the saide John Ellyson or his assignes shall and will procure or fynde one sufficient man unfurnished to serve in the saide warres at the appoyntment of the saide Randle Davemport or his heires or shall contribute in money or otherwise to the saide Randle Davemport and his heires as others then tenants of the same Randle of the lyke Rente shall hereafter do AND THE SAIDE Randle Davemport and William Davemport covenant and graunte to and with the saide John Ellison his executors and assignes by these psents That it shall and maie be lawfull to and for the saide John Ellison his executors assignes or anie of them to cutt downe fell and take the underwood growing on the p'misses to their necessarie use during the saide terme wilful or voluntarie waste alone excepted and that the saide Randle his heires and assignes shall and will from tyme to tyme and at all tymes hereafter during the saide terme uppon reasonable requeste deliver or cause to be delyvered unto the saide John Ellison and his assignes reasonable and sufficient housboote[2] hedgeboote ploweboote carteboote and gateboote to be taken of the tymber and woodes growing in and uppon the messuage tene't aforesaide And also the saide Randle Davemport and William Davemport do covenant and graunte for themselves and either of theyme and their and either of their heires executors administrators and assignes and everie of them by these psents to and with the saide John Ellison his executors and assignes and everie of them for and during all the said terme the saide messuage ten'te and all other the recyted p'misses with all and singular their appurtenances in manner and forme before demysed unto the saide John Ellison his executors and assignes and everie of them against all people shall and will warrant and defend by these p'sents AND moreover this Indenture witnesseth that the saide Randle Davemport and William Davemport have constituted and appoynted and by these psents do constitute and appoynte Randle Chell and John Newton their true and lawful attorneis joyntlie and severallie to enter into the p'misses and thereof possession and seisine to take for and in the name of the said Randle Davenport and William Davenport and after such possession and seisine in their names so had and taken then to deliver full peaceable and quyet possession and seisine for and in the name and stedd of the said Randle Davemport and William Davemport to the said John Ellison or his lawful attorney in that behalfe of and in the p'misses according to the intent purport and true meaninge of these p'sents ratifyinge allowinge and confirminge all and whatsoever their said attorneys or the one of them shall joyntlie or severallie do in the p'misses by these p'sents IN WITNESS whereof the p'ties abovesaid have hereunto interchangeably sett their hands and seales dated the daie and yeare first above wrytten.

RAN. DAVEMPORT
WILLI. DAVEMPORT

1. Service due to the lord with horse and carriage.
2. Wood for repairs to house, fences, ploughs, etc.

ENDORSEMENTS.

Memoran'd that possession and seisin of and in the messuage and ten'te (which is demysed) was had and taken by John Newton t'hone of the attorneys within mentioned and tenure so had and taken was given to the within named John Ellison accordinge to the true meaninge of the within wrytten Indenture the 24th daie of March anno. Reginæ Elizabethæ dominæ nostræ XLIIIo. in ye p'sence of

WILLIAM LIVERSAGE
THOMAS NODEN
HUGHE BROME

This lease determined at ye decease of ye within named Richard Ellyson anno. 1666.
Renewed to his sonn Hugh Ellyson 1670.
By ROGER WILBRAHAM.

The lease to Rauphe Meryell or Merriell was similar. It was made 16th Nov. of 40th year of Elizabeth (the forty first year of Elizabeth began on the following day 17th November).

The fine paid for renewal was forty marks.

The lives were those of Rauphe Meryell, Elizabeth his wife, and John their son. The rent twenty shillings and ten pence.

Covenant by Randle Davenport and William Davenport that if at any time during the term the son John Meryell should marry that then on surrender of the lease and payment of £20 a new lease should be granted at the same rent and service for the lives of Rauphe or Elizabeth Meryell of John Meryell and of his future wife.

The attorneys for delivering possession are Randle Chell and John Newton Schoolmaster of Sandbach.

APPENDIX D. ii.

THIS INDENTURE MADE the twentyeth day of December in the two and twentyeth year of the reigne of our sovereigne Lord Charles by the Grace of God of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King Defender of the Faith and Anno D'ni 1646 BETWEENE Thomas Wilbraham of Wyche Malbanke als' Namptwyche in the County of Chester Esq. uppon the one part and Randull Stanway of Betchton in the sayd County husbandman uppon the other part WITNESSETH that the sayd Thomas Wilbraham for and in consideration of the sume of One hundred and three score pounds of lawfull money of England to him in hand payd by the sayd Randull Stanway before the'n-sealing and deliv'y of these presents the receipt whereof the said Thomas Wilbraham doth hereby acknowledge and thereof and of ev'y part and parcel thereof, doth exonerate acquit and discharge the sayd Randull Stanway his executors and adm'rors by these presents And for divers other good causes and considerac'ons him thereunto moving HATH demysed graunted sett and to ferme lett and by these p'sents doth demyse graunt sett and to ferme lett unto the sayd Randull Stanway his executors adm'rors and assignees ALL THAT messuage and tenem't with the appurtenance situate lying and being in Betchton aforesaid now in the tenure houlding and occupac'on of the sayd Randull Stanway together with all and singular houses buildings orchards yords gardens lands meadowes leysowes pastures outpasture com'ons of pasture and turbarye with all cropps and topps of trees and wychewood growing and that shall growe within or uppon the premises as heretofore hath been accustomed and also with full and free liberty to dig delve get and take marle in and uppon the sayd premises or any part thereof for the bettering of the same And all other profitts comodityes easements and whatsoever they bee or shall bee to the sayd messuage or tenem't belonging or app'tayning or therew'th heretofore usually sett lett to ferme used occupied or enioyed with all and singular their app'tence To have and to Hould the said messuage tenem't and all and singular other the p'misses aforesaid with their and every of their app'tence unto the sayd

Randull Stanway his executors admr'ors and assignees to his and their most p'fitt and advantage (wilfull waste only excepted) for and during the terme of the natural lyves of him the said Randall Stanway Randull and Ellen Stanway sonne and daughter of him the sayd Randull p'ty to these p'sents and for and during the lyves and lyfe naturall of the longest lyver of them Yielding and paying therefore yearely during the sayd terme to the sayd Thomas Wilbraham his heires and Assignees the annual or yearley rent of thirteene shillings and five pence of lawful money of England att the yearely feast daies of the Nat'y of St. John Baptist and St. Martyn the Bishop in winter by even porc'ons or within twenty daies either of the sayd feastes yearely next ensueing and an herriott at the decease of ev'y p'son dying tenn'te in or to the p'misses aforesayd or any part thereof and two rent capons yearely uppon the first day of February and the fetching and leading of a good and sufficient rooke[1] or load of coles for a cart yearely to the now dwelling house of the sayd Thomas Wilbraham situate in Wyche Malbanke al's Namptwyche aforesayd and also yeilding or paying to the sayd Thomas Wilbraham his heires and assignees the yearely rent of seaventeene pence of lawfull English money for Average at the feast of St. Martyn the Bishop in winter Together with all such other dutyes and services as heretofore have been accustomed or used to be payd and done for the sayd messuage during the sayd terme And if it happen the sayd yearely rent of thirteen shillings and five pence to bee behynd and unpaid in p'te or in all by the space of twenty daies next ensuing either of the sayd feastes wherein it ought to be payd (being lawfully demanded) and noe sufficient distresse or distresses can or may bee found in or uppon the sayd messuage and premises nor any part thereof whereby the said Thomas Wilbraham his heires or assignees may lawfully have and take the aforesayd rent with the averages thereof (if any bee) That then it shall and may be lawfull to and for the sayd Thomas Wilbraham his heirs and assignees and any of them into all the aforesayd messu'e and tenem't and other the premises to re-enter and the same to re-possess have again and re-enjoy as in his or their former estate This Indenture or anything herein contayned to the contrary notwithstanding AND the said Randull Stanway doth for himself his heires executors admi'rors and assignees covenante and graunt to and with the said Thomas Wilbraham his heires and assignees by these presents that hee the sayd Randull Stanway his executors admi'rors and assignees shall and will from tyme to tyme keepe up and maintain the said messuage houses and buildings sufficiently repayred and tenantable during the sayd terme having sufficient great tymber to him and them allowed att all tymes needfull for the necessary repayring thereof by the sayd Thomas Wilbraham his heires or assignees or by his or their bayliffe or other officer for the tyme being of such as doth growe or hereafter shall growe in or uppon the premises if there bee any such tymber to be found growing uppon the same AND that so often as the sayd Thomas Wilbraham or his heires shall within the sayd terme be appoynted to serve the King's Ma'ty his heires or successors in the warres in his or their proper persons that then the sayd Randull Stanway if hee bee then living and able to serve or else his assignee or assignees shall in his or their proper persons be ready furnished with armour and weapons to serve under and in the retynue of the sayd Thomas Wilbraham or his heires in the same warres And alsoe when and so often as the sayd Thomas Wilbraham shall be commanded or compelled to sett forth or furnish any man or men within the lordship of Betchton to or for the warres That then the sayd Randull Stanway or his assignees shall and will procure and fynd one sufficient man unfurnished to serve in the said warres at the appoyntm't of the sayd Thomas Wilbraham or his heires or shall contribute in money or otherwise to the same Thomas Wilbraham or his heires for the procuring of one sufficient person for the same service as other ten'tes of the sayd Thomas Wilbraham of the lyke rent shall hereafter doe And the sayd Thomas Wilbraham doth for himself his heires executors adm'rors and assignees coven'nte and graunt to and with the sayd Randull Stanway his executors adm'rors and assignees by these presents That hee the said Thomas Wilbraham his heires and assignees the said messuage and tenem't and all other the recited premises with all and singular their appurtenances unto the said Randull Stanway and his assignees for and during the sayd term in manner and forme aforesaid and under the covenants and graunts above specified against him the said Thomas Wilbraham his heires and assignees and against Rachell Louthiane[2] mother of the sayd Thomas Wilbraham and all and any other person and persons anything having or clayming or hereafter to have or clayme from by or under him the sayd Thomas Wilbraham or from by or under the sayd Rachell his mother or either of them shall and will warrant acquit discharge save harmelesse and defend by these p'sents And moreover the sayd Thomas Wilbraham hath made constituted and ordayned and by these p'sents doth make

1. "Ruck," that is a heap.
2. See Chapter IX., p. 144, under "Betchton," par. 2.

constitute and ordayne and in his place and sted doth put his wellbeloved in Christ[1] Randull Lockett the elder and John Merrill of Betchton aforesayd yeomen his true and lawfull attorneys for him and in his name and sted jointly or severally into the said messuage or tenem't lands and all other the premises or into some part thereof in the name of the whole to enter and full and peaceable possession and seizin for him and in his name to take and after such possession and seizin thereof soe had and taken then to deliver full and peaceable possession and seizin thereof or any p'te or p'cell thereof in the name of the whole to the sayd Randull Stanway or to his attorney in that behalfe To have and to hould the said messuage and tenem't lands and all other the premises with their appurt's to him the sayd Randull Stanway his executors, adm'rors and assignees during all the sayd terme according to the tenour purport and effect of these presents the said Thomas Wilbraham hereby ratifying confirming and allowing whatsoever his sayd attorneys jointly or severally shall doe in the premises Provided alwaies and uppon condi'con that the sayd Randull Stanway his executors adm'rors or assignees shall not att any tyme during the sayd terme sell or convey his or their right tytle or interest in all or any part of the recited premises to any outman or stranger without the lysense and consent of the sayd Thomas Wilbraham or his heires in writing first thereunto had and obtayned In Witness whereof the parties above named to these Indentures enterchangeably have sett their hands and seales the day and yeare first above written.

RANDLE STANWAY.

Sealed and delivered in the presence of
Ranulphe Lockett
The mark of Richard Ampson
Raphe Newton.

ENDORSEMENT BY ROGER WILBRAHAM BROTHER AND HEIR OF THOMAS WILBRAHAM.

20 Decem. XXII° Car. 1646.

Counterpart of a lease of Stanway's ten'mt in Betchton for the lives of Randle Stanway, Randle his sonne and Ellen his daughter

Randle Stanway ye elder	1 ld. of coals
dyed May 18 1669	2 capons
Randle Stanway ye younger	Rent 13s. 5d.
dyed 24th Nov. 1677.	Average 1s. 5d.
	With other usuall services.

NOTE BY ROGER WILBRAHAM ON A SCRAP OF PAPER ENCLOSED IN THE COUNTERPART LEASE.

27 Apr. 88.

Memd. that then I agreed with Rand. Stanway, of Betchton, Yeoman, in considerac'on of £100 fine and 8li. yearly for five years to make him a new lease of his tenement in Betchton which he holds for the life of Ellen, wife of Warton Green, of Northwich, Miller. And therein to add his owne life and ye life of Sarah Turner daughter of William Turner of Betchton afores'd the reservations and covenants to be the same as in ye old lease save that there is to be a provisoe to secure ye 8li. wh. he is to pay to me and my assignee for 5 yeares if ye lease so long continue.

I am by promise to give him a note under my hand to oblige mee and my assignees being thereunto required at any time within three years (provided all the 3 lives be then in being) to exchange the life of Ellen Green for such other life as he shall nominate, paying for ye life so to be exchanged ye sum of 5 markes to me or my assignees.

This to be p'fected within six weeks.

1 This form is a survival from the days when lawyers were ecclesiastics. It occurs in the 14th century deed given in Appendix B. i.

APPENDIX D. iii.

THIS INDENTURE made the twenty-ninth day of April in the fifth year of the Reigne of our Soveraigne Lord George by the Grace of God of Great Britaine France and Ireland King Defender of the faith and Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and nineteen BETWEEN Randle Wilbraham of Wichmalbank in the County of Chester Esq. of the one part And Josiah Twemlowe of Betchton in the said County gentleman on the other part WITNESSETH that the said Randle Wilbraham as well for and in consideration of the surrender of a former lease of the messuage and tenement hereafter mentioned made by the said Randle Wilbraham to the said Josiah Twemlowe for three lives two of which are yet in being as for the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds of good and lawfull money of Great Britaine to him the said Randle in hand paid the receipt whereof he doth hereby acknowledge and thereof and every part thereof doth acquit and discharge the said Josiah Twemlowe his executors and administrators and every of them HATH demised granted set and to farme let and by these presents doth demise grant sett and to farme lett to the said Josiah Twemlowe ALL that messuage or tenement with the appurtenances situate lying and being in Betchton aforesaid now in the tenure and occupation of the said Josiah Twemlowe his undertenants or assigns with all houses barns stables outhouses gardens orchards yords outletts lands meadows pastures commons of pasture and turbary ways waters easements profits and com'odities thereto belonging or therewith now used and occupied as part parcel or member of the same with all crops and tops of trees and underwoods now growing or which may hereafter grow upon the premises (the woods and underwoods now growing or which shall hereafter grow in and upon certain parcells of the premises called the furthermost field bank the Pool field bank and the Mosleys bank always excepted) with liberty to dig delve and carry marle upon the premises for improvement thereof and to take sufficient houseboot plowboot cartboot and gateboot to bee used upon the premises and not elsewhere TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the said messuage tenement and other the before demised premises to the said JOSIAH TWEMLOWE HIS HEIRS AND ASSIGNS for and during the lives naturall of the said Josiah Hannah his wife and Hannah third daughter of John Amson Esq. and for and during the life natural of the longest liver of them to all Tenantly uses and profits wilful waste excepted YIELDING AND PAYING therefore yearly during the said terme unto the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs and assigns the rent of twenty five shillings and sixpence[1] of lawfull money of Great Britaine at the feast days of the Nativity of St. John Baptist and St. Martin the Bishop in winter by even and equal portions and also the yearly rent of seventeen pence of lawfull British money for average at the feast of the said St. Martin the Bishop in winter and two rent capons yearly upon the first day of February and the bringing and delivering of one good and sufficient cart or wayne load of coals yearly to and att the dwelling house of the said Randle Wilbraham in Wichmalbank aforesaid or six shillings and sixpence of lawfull British money in lieu or stead thereof at the choice and election of the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs and assigns And a herriot of the best goods at the decease of the said Josiah Twemlowe and of every other person or persons dying principall tenant or tenants in or to the premises aforesaid or any part thereof together with all such other dutys and services both in times of War and Peace as have been accustomably done and performed by such as have been tenants to the premises And if it happen the said yearly rent of twenty five shillings and sixpence or any part thereof or any other the Reservations aforesaid to bee behind or unpaid in part or in all by the space of twenty days next ensuing either or any of the said feast or other days in which the same ought to be paid done or performed as aforesaid (the same being lawfully demanded) and no sufficient distresse or distresses can or may bee found in or upon the premises or any parts thereof in all the said space of time That then it shall and may bee lawfull to and for the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs and assigns into all the aforesaid messuage and tenement and all other the before demised premises to re-enter and the same to possess enjoy and have again as in his and their former estate these presents or anything therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding And the said Josiah Twemlowe for himself his heirs and assigns doth covenant and grant to and with the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs and assigns by these presents that hee the said Josiah Twemlowe his heirs and assigns shall and will from time to to time keep up and maintaine the said messuage houses and building sufficiently repaired tenantable during the said term having sufficient great timber to him and them allowed and delivered at all times

1. That is 23 shillings and 2 pence "old rent" of 1557, and 2 shillings and 4 pence additional under the agreement of 1714. See Chap. IX., p. 147.

needful for the necessary repairing thereof by the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs or assigns or by his or their Bailiffe or other officer for the the time being of such as doth grow or hereafter shall grow in or upon the premises (if there be any such timber to bee found growing upon the same) And that he the said Josiah Twemlowe his heirs and assigns and assignees shall and will grind all such corne graine or pulse as he or they shall expend during their abode on the premises at the mills of the said Randle Wilbraham in Betchton aforesaid and for every default forfeit to the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs and assigns the sum of two shillings and sixpence unless upon complaint made and due proof of unfair and unjust usage they can obtaine noe redress and also that he the said Josiah Twemlowe his heirs and assigns or any of them shall not or will not at any time during the said terme sell or convey his or their right title or interest in all or in any part of the said premises to any outman or stranger without the license and consent of the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs or assigns in writing first thereunto had and obtained And the said Randle Wilbraham for himself his heirs and assigns doth covenant promise grant and agree to and with the said Josiah Twemlowe his heirs and assigns by these presents that hee the said Josiah Twemlowe his heirs and assigns (under the yearly rent reservations and covenants) shall and may during the whole terme hereby granted peaceably and quietly have hold use and enjoy all the said before demised premises with their appurtenances according to the true intent and meaning hereof without any lett suit trouble charge molestation or incumbrance whatsoever of or by the said Randle Wilbraham his heirs or assigns or of or by any other person or persons lawfully claiming from or under him them or any of them or by their or any of their means consent privity or procurement And moreover the said Randle Wilbraham hath made constituted and ordained and by these presents in his place doth put Jonathan Swain of Betchton yeoman and Joseph Key of Odd Rode yeoman his true and lawful attorneys joyntly or severally to enter for him into the said messuage or tenement and other the demised premises with their appurtenances or into any part thereof in the name of the whole and possession and seizin thereof to take and after such possession and seizin so thereof had and taken then full and peaceable possession and seizin thereof or of any part thereof in the name of the whole to give or deliver to the said Josiah Twemlowe or to his certain attorney in that behalfe to have and to hold according to the tenure forme and effect of these present ratifying and hereby confirming all and whatsoever his said attorneys or either of them shall doe or cause to bee done in the premises pursuant to their Authority aforesaid

In Witness whereof the partys aforesaid to these present interchangeably have put their hands and seals the day and year first above written

JOSIAH TWEMLOW

ENDORSEMENT

Counterpart of a lease of a Tenement in Betchton made to Mr. Josiah Twemlow for three lives viz. his owne Hannah his wife and of Hannah daughter to John Ampson of Leigh Esq.

Dat. Ap. 29th 1719

Rent	£1	5	6
Average	0	1	5
Coals or	0	6	6
Capons or	0	2	6
	£1	15	11

Herriott

APPENDIX E. i.

LINGARD WILLS.

EXTRACTED FROM THE DISTRICT REGISTRY OF THE PROBATE DIVISION OF HIS MAJESTY'S HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE AT CHESTER.

Original Defaced.

NAME OF GOD AMEN the XXIII daie of August in the ovreigne Ladie Elizabeth by the Grace of God Anno Dni I JOHN LINGARD of Arcklyd in the of good and perfecte memorie laude and prayse last Will and Testament in manner and forme followinge First I geve and be Almightie God my Creator and Maker and to Jesus Christ my Redeem and Saviour deathe and p'sious bloode shedinge I trust to have remission of my synnes Secondlie my bodie to earthe to be semelie buried in the Churche of Sandebache Unto the repa'con of W'ch Church I geve and bequeathe Vs. And thirdelie my goods to the world to be distributed as hereafter followth Imprimis I geve and bequeathe to my sonne Willm Lingard IIs. in full satisfaction and discharge of all his childe p'te and porc'on It'm I geve and bequeath to my sonnes James Lingard and John Lingard X li. viz. ether fyve pounds It'm I geve and bequeath to my sonne Antonio Lingard VI li. XIIIs. IIIId. It'm I geve and bequeath to my sonne Richard Lingard X li. It'm I geve and bequeath to my two daughters Jane Lingard and Allayse Lingard ether of them XXX li. All the rest of my goods cattells and debts moveable and immoveable quicke and deade in whose hande or in what place soever they bee my debts legacies and funerall expencs paid and discharged I geve and bequeathe to my welbeloved wief Katherin Lingard It'm I constitute ordeane and make my welbeloved wief Katherin Lingard aforsayd my sole executrix to see this my last Will and Testament trulie executed p'formed and fulfylled accordinge to the trust and confidence I repose in hir And I alsoe make my welbeloved Uncle George Whittacars and my welbeloved brother Willm. Lingard overseers of the same

Debtes which I the sayd Testator doe oughe :

Itm to my cosen Ric. Lingard	XL li.
Whereas my sonne Willm. Lingard by cou'nte[1] and scrip'e before soundrye wytnesses ys to paye and discharge them halfe viz.	XX li.
Itm to Willm Levsage Squyer	VI li.
Itm to Thomas Crewe	XLs.
Itm to Baddeley of Holdiche	III li.
Itm to Randle Furnevall	XXXVIs. VIIId.
Itm to George Whittacars	Xs.
Itm to Mr. Elcocke p'son of Barthomley	Xs.
Itm to Willm Furnevall	XXIs. IIId.
Itm to Joan Hodgekinson	XXXs.
Itm to Peter Corker	XXs.
Itm to Raffe Lingard	V li.

Debtes owinge to the said testator :

Imprimis Richard Nichols	XLV li.
Itm Thomas Bryckytt	VIII li. XIIIs. Vd.
Itm Hugh Walworthe	Ls.
Itm Phillip Greenehouse	XXXs.
Itm Willm Kinge	XXXIIIs. IIIId.
Itm Nycholas Ryle	XLIIIs. IIIId.
Itm Mr. Willm Levsage the Younger	IIIIs.
Itm Richard Shawe de Crosse	XXIs.
Itm John Waters	VI li. IXs. VIIId.
Itm Raffe Nabbes	XXXVIIIs.

1. Covenant and writing.

Itm Margarett Brereton	Vs.
Itm John Wold	Ls.
Itm Richard Foxe	Xs.
Itm my sonne Willm Lingard	V li.
Itm my sayd sonne for a colt which was payed to Hugh Rathbone	III li. XIIIs. IIIId.
Itm for my saide sonne paid to Pownall	XXs.
Itm Allyse Smalwood Wydowe	Xs.
Itm Manasses Whittinghm	XIIs.

JOHN LINGARD These being wytnesses at ye reding signinge and delivering hereof
JOHN HODGEKINSON PETER CORKER

Proved in the Consistory Court of Chester
on the 7th April 1592

APPENDIX E. ii.

EXTRACTED FROM THE DISTRICT REGISTRY OF THE PROBATE DIVISION OF HIS MAJESTY'S HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE AT CHESTER.

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN THE XIIIIth day of August in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred and twenty I WILL'M LYNGARD Clerke Parson of Warmincham in the County of Chester beinge sicke in body but of good and p'fect memory I give God thanks for yt do ordeyne constitute and make this my last Will and Testam't in manner and forme followinge that is to say First I give and bequeath my Soule to Almighty God my Creator and Maker and to Jesus Christ my Redeemer and Savyor by whose death and passion I trust to have free p'don and full remission of all my sinnes Secondly I bequeath my body to the earth to be seemely buried in the Chancell of the Parish Church of Warmincham aforesaid at the discretion of my executors And thirdly my goods temporall to the world to be distributed as hereafter followeth Imprimis I give and bequeath unto the Parson of Warmincham that shall succeede me[1] the great stonn[2] tubbe all the glasse in the windowes except that over the gate and the iron hooks over the kytchin where I used to hange bacon It'm I give to the Churchwardens of Warmincham to the repa'con of the Church ten shillings It'm I give and bequeath unto the sup'vysors of the High Wayes ten shillings the one halfe to be paved in the Milne lane and the other halfe in the Booth lane at Thyre discretions It'm I give to my kinsmen Thomas Whittakers Wm. Whittakers his brother and Roger Turner evry one of them ten shillings It'm I give unto Em. Lyngard[3] Widow and to Francis her sonn eyther of them ten shillings It'm I give unto William Lyngard of Arclid the younger the bedstid in the new buildings chamber the pillow chest in my chamber with the lock and key only and the silver tun It'm I give unto Willm Lyngard the elder and Ellen his wyffe eyther of them a silver spoone with two lres[4] for his name ingraven on th end of them It'm I give unto Frances Beckett a silver spoone and to her daughter by John Lyngard ten shillings It'm I give to my godchildren Edward Shalcrosse Wm. Furnivall Wm. Shawe and Mary Smyth evry one of them IIIs. IIIId. It'm I give unto all the rest of my godchildren evy one of them XIId. apiece I'tm I give unto Katheren Lownds and Margrett Turner eyther of them ten shillings I give unto the poore people of Warmincham forty shillings It'm to the poore of Sandbach twenty shillings It'm to the poore people of Myddlewych XIIIs. IIIId. It'm I bequeath to my syster Katheren Turner III li. VIs. VIIId. and a silver spoone It'm I give to my cosin John Turner III li. VIs. VIIId. and to his wyffe a silver spoone I'tm I give to Randle Furnivall[5] and Wm. Shaw eyther of them XXs. and eyther

1. Warmincham Rectory has been rebuilt on a new site.
2. ? Stone or storm. It means rain-tub.
3. Emilia Lingard, widow, buried at Sandbach, Dec. 1634. Probably the widow of William, son of John Lingard, died 1616.
4. This word is not clear; but the Spoons would be of the "seal headed" form then in fashion.
5. Randle Furnival married Ellen Lingard 20th Nov. 1580. He was an appraiser of Kath Lingard's goods, 1608.

of theire wyves a silver spoone It'm I give unto Robert Corcke VI li. XIIIs. IIIId. It'm to Katheren Ellen Corcke his systers evy one of them forty shillings I'tm I give unto Richard Ronduls Xs. It'm I give unto Ann Lyngard[1] widow Xs. and to her (?) younger children evry one of them XXs. I give unto Ann Hulse the longe chest under the window with the locke and key only It'm I give and bequeath unto Mr. Conway XX li. wth all my books and the bed whereon he lyeth in the newe buildinge chamber wth all the furniture belonginge to yt the bedstead only excepted lykewyse I give unto him my best suit of app'ell my Lord Bushop beinge fyrst served It'm I give unto James Rathbon XXs. and the bed whereon he lyeth I'tm I give unto Wm. Weever XXs. It'm I give and bequeath unto Katheren Whittakers X li. my new presse my bed wherein I lye wth yt furniture It'm I give unto John Hassall the carpett for the long table in the p'lor and to his wyffe Xs. I give unto Charles Shalcrosse the iron bound chest with the lock and key only and to his wyffe Xs. I'tm I give unto Raph Merrywell Xs. I'tm to Hugh Whellocke Xs. It'm I give unto Wm. Lyngard the younger my best wayne It'm I give unto the said Wm. Lyngard the younger and Rondle Lyngard all my othr waynes carts plowes harrowes yoks edgloomes and all other instrumts of husbandry equilly to be divided betweene them I'tm I give to the said Rondle Lyngard XXX li. wch he oweth me yt he doe marry with the consent of my executors or the greater pte of them It'm I give unto John Weld the elder and his wyffe eyther of them Xs. and to John Henshawe the elder Xs. I'tm unto Thomas Henshaw his brother XLs. and to his wyffe Xs. I'tm I give to Margery Pyggott Xs. I'tm to Roger Chantler and his wyffe Elizabeth eyther of them Xs. It'm I give to John Furnivall Xs. and to his wyffe a silver spoone It'm I give unto Katheren Corke aforesaid my cosin and servant the bed wherein she lyeth in the Kytchin chamber with all the furniture belonginge to yt It'm I give to Rondle Lyngard aforesaid the bed over the.....when he lyes with the furniture It'm I give unto Robert Conway Xs. It'm to Mary Podmore al's Feevers XXs. It'm I give unto Thomas Hassall the elder VIs. VIIId. It'm I give to my neighbor Rondle Harrison and his wyffe eyther of them Vs. It'm to Edward Kynsie and his wyffe eyther of them Vs. It'm to John Yerwood Xs. It'm to Rondle Berrington VIIs. VIIId. It'm to John Barnes Vs. It'm I give unto M'gery Henshaw my cosin and servant XXs. It'm to Joane Berrington wyffe of Ottywell Berrington Vs. It'm my will is that my apparell unbequeathed shall be bestowed at the discretion of my executors All the rest and residue of my goods and cattells unbequeathed my detts legasies funeral expenses fyrst paid and discharged out of the whole I give and bequeath unto Wm. Turner sonn of John Turner and to Wm. Lyngard the younger to be equally devyded betweene them It'm I doe constitute ordeyne and make my welbeloved frends Rondle Shenton Clerke Parson of Coppinhall Charles Shalcrosse Gent and John Hassall my true and lawful executors to p'forme fulfill and execute this my last Will and Testamt accordinge to the trust and confidence wch I have in them And all former wills I revoake and utterly disanull And I desyre Mr. Conway and Rondle Furnival of Bradwall to be overseers of the same Sealed signed and delivered in the pnce of Wm. Conway Wm. Smyth Wm. Weever.....

A true and perfect inventory of all the goods cattells chattells and detts of William Lyngard Clerke and Parson of Warmyncham deceased taken praised and valued the three and twentieth day of August Anno Dni 1620 by Thomas Kent John Kent Robert Hulse William Hassall John Beckett and James Wright Praisors

Imprimis two great oxen	VIII li. Xs.
Item foure drawen steeres	XIII li.
Item eleaven kyne with one calf and a bull	XXX li.
Item foure stirkes	VI li. Xs.
Item fyve rearinge calves	IIII li.
Item one olde baye mare	XXVIs. VIIId.
Item one whyte nagg	III li. VIs. VIIId.
Item six hoggs one boare one sowe and two piggs	VI li. XVIs.
Item corne on the ground	XV li.
Item in hey	VIII li. Xs.
Item twenty foure geese eight henns and ten ducks	VIs.
Item one peacock peahen with two young ones	IIIIs.
Item dunge in the toune field and about houses	VI li.
Item in Mr. Conways chamber one fyther bed, one wool bed, two boulsters, two pillows three blankets, one coveringe sheet, two pillowbeares curteynes with curteyne rods	IIII li.

1. Ann Stevenson married Anthony Lingard 29th Jan. 1597. He died March 1609.

Item one siled bedd with a large press	XXIIIs. IIIId.
Item one lattin tremelius Byble one English Byble small comentary upon the three first Evangelists, Piscator upon St. Mathew and upon Paules Epistles, Aretius upon Luke, Danius upon the small Pphetts with other small bookes	XLs.
Itm in the plor half a dosen of cusshens	XXs.
Itm in Mr. Parsons chamber one fitherbed one woolbed, two boulsters, one pillow wth a pillow beere foure blankets, one whyte cadow paire of sheets, curteynes wth curteyn rodds	III li. VIs. VIIId.
Itm one siled bed with a large presse	XXXIIIs. IIIId.
Item one square table four buffett stooles three cheares, one old trunke, one large chest and one old lyny table	XXXs.
Itm Lynnens and nappery ware	XLs.
Itm in James his chamber one chaff bed two blanketts, one coverlett, one bolster and bedstocks	XIIIs. IIIId.
Itm in gates chamber one fither bed mattres case, one bolster, one pillow, two coverletts, one blankett, and one paire of bedstocks	XXVIs. VIIId.
Itm in Maids chambers one fither bed, two coverletts, one blanckett, two bolsters, and two pillowes, with bedstocks	XXVIs. VIIId.
Itm one chaff bed, one coverlett, one blankett wth the bedstids	XIIIs. IIIId.
Itm in the kytchin lofte one bedstidd.	XVId.
Itm in the lofte over the kitchin cheese	V li. Xs.
Itm in bacon	XXs.
Itm in rye and wheate	XXs.
Itm fyve bushells of mault	XLs.
Itm a strike of groats[1]	VIs.
Itm swynes grease and tallow	IIIs. IIIId.
Itm three gallons of butter	VIIIs.
Itm in peuter	XLs.
Itm in pott and pann brasse	III. LL. Xs.
Itm ironware in the Kitchin	VIIs. VId.
Itm in cowpery ware	XXVIIIs.
Itm three dosen of trenchers and chessatts	IIIs. IIIId.
Itm Sawed bords tressels and formes	Xs.
Itm eight sacks and two wynnow sheets	VIIIs. IIIId.
Itm Husbandry ware	IIII li. VIs. VIIId.
Itm turves kidds and firrwood stocks	III li. VIs. VIIId.
Itm two ladders	IIIIs.
Itm three swyne troughes	XIId.
Itm old ashe and other old tymber	Vs.
Itm two double brakes and one swingle	IIIs.
Itm apparrell	V li.
Itm Seives and cheese presse	XVIIId.
Itm hempe on the ground	XXs.
Itm one cow hyde	XIs. VIIId.
Itm one yearinge horse coult	
Itm one silver tun and eight sylver spoones	III li. VIIIs. IIIId.
Itm gold and silver in his possession	XXXIII li. VIIs. VId.
Itm detts owinge to the decedent	LVII li. Xs.
Some total	CCXLVIII li. XIIIs. IIId.

Proved in the Consistory Court of Chester on the 20th September 1620.

1. Oats without the husks.

APPENDIX E. iii.

INVENTORY OF KATHERINE LINGARD OF ARCKLID, 31st JULY 1608.

RANDLE FURNIVAL, WILLIAM SHAWE, JOHN HODGKINSON, HUGH LEA, Appraisers.

Adminstration given to Antony Lingard her son.

		£	s.	d.
Imprimis	4 oxen	14	0	0
Item	7 kine	21	15	0
,,	five stirks	7	0	0
,,	four calves	4	0	0
,,	one horse	4	0	0
,,	one mare	1	16	8
,,	five hogges	1	16	8
,,	five (?)	1	0	0
,,	21 sheepe	5	0	0
,,	corn unthreshed	17	0	0
,,	corn upon the ground	1	13	4
,,	Malt	0	10	0
,,	Hay	6	0	0
,,	Geese	0	7	8
,,	7 ducks	0	2	4
,,	Brass pots, pans and candlesticks	6	0	0
,,	Pullen (?) fowls	0	4	4
,,	10 silver spoons	2	10	0
,,	pewter	1	3	0
,,	1 maylen pan	0	1	0
,,	1 still for aqua vitae	0	12	0
,,	a pewter bottle	0	2	0
,,	bedds	5	0	0
,,	sheets and napery	1	10	0
,,	Her apparel	5	0	0
,,	Cheese	1	6	8
,,	Butter	0	12	0
,,	Hony	0	10	0
,,	Bees	0	10	0
,,	Hemp and flax	1	13	4
,,	Woollen cloth	1	6	8
,,	Bedstocks with hangings	1	6	8
,,	Boards, chairs, stools and forms	1	0	0
,,	Coffers	1	0	0
,,	Wheels sieves, and a half holpe (?)	0	5	0
,,	a compe and a haire	0	13	4
,,	ploughs, harrows, &c.	1	10	0
,,	Broches (? spits) and ironware	0	13	4
,,	Muck	1	10	0
,,	a boom (? loom) and a marpe stocke (?)	0	10	0
,,	a handmill	0	6	8
,,	ladders and braks	0	3	4
,,	Cocks and hennes	0	6	8
,,	Saddle and bridle	0	5	0
,,	Barrel and treene ware (i.e. wooden ware)	0	6	8
,,	Money	0	7	6
,,	Fuel	0	10	0
,,	Painted (?)	0	0	6
,,	Lantern	0	2	0
,,	Pair of tables, &c.			
	Total	£120	17	8

APPENDIX E. iv.

Administration of William Lingard of Arclid given to Edward Lingard the brother of William Lingard late deceased.

Bond for £60 given by Edward Lingard of Arclid and William Pointon of Congleton, to Edward Russell the Rural dean of Middlewich, 7th October 23rd year of King Charles, and of our Lord 1647.

The condition of this obligation is such that if the above bounden Edward Lingard of Arclid brother of William Lingard late deceased to whom the administration of all and singular the goods and chattels of the said deceased is committed and granted do and shall well and faithfully administer all and singular the said goods and chattels of the said deceased and shall make and exhibit a full true and perfect inventory and account thereof when he shall thereto be lawfully called or warned and lastly do save and keep harmless the said Edward Russell and all other his office (?) for committing and granting the said letters of administration then the above written obligation to be void and of no effect or else to be in full force and vertue sealed and delivered by Edward Lingard in the presence of Geo. Wilson sealed and delivered by William Pointon in the presence of Geo. Wilson Nov: Rube: (?).

Edward Lingard fecit fidem Maria Lingard vid: relict: defuncti penitus recusasse adm:

(Edward Lingard pledged his word that Mary Lingard the widow of the deceased had altogether refused administration.)[1]

A true and perfect Inventory of all the goods cattle and chattels of William Lingard late of Arclett deceased taken and priced by us who have hereunto subscribed our names.

		£	s	d
Imprimis	Hay and corn in the barn	13	0	0
Item	Muck and ashes	0	10	0
	Cow	2	12	0
	Two swine	1	0	0
	Tables stools and chairs	2	10	0
	Bedding and hangings for beds and carpets for tables	3	10	0
	Cushions	1	0	0
	Bedsteads chests and boxes	3	10	0
	Naperie ware	3	0	0
	Brass and pewter	2	10	0
	(?) ware of all sorts	0	10	0
	Treene (wooden) ware	0	10	0
	One spinning wheel	0	2	0
	Husbandry ware	0	10	0
	Sacks and winnow sheet	0	2	0
	Printed books	0	6	0
	Two ends of cloth, one of linen and another of woollen	1	0	0
	(?)	0	2	0
	One cupboard	0	13	4
	Hanging pictures	0	2	0
	One great dishboard	0	3	4
	Goods forgotten	0	10	0
		37	12	8

JOHN WALWORTH
[2]WILLIAM HARTLEY
x RANDLE COOKE
his mark
} Prisers.

Ex. Pte.
EDUS. LINGARD,
7th October 1647.

1. William Lingard, the father, would have had a claim prior to that of a brother.
2. William Hartley married Dorothy Lingard, sister of the deceased.

APPENDIX F. i.

TITLE OF CHARLES FLEETWOOD TO THE CASTLES OF HELEIGH AND TYRLEY, AND THE MANORS OF GERARD'S BROMLEY, AUDLEY, TILLINGTON, ASHLEY AND TYRLEY.

On the death of Philip seventh and last Lord Gerard without issue, in 1732, his estates went to his only sister Frances, who had married Thomas Fleetwood. It would seem that Philip Lord Gerard, who succeeded his brother Charles sixth Lord Gerard in 1707, cut off the entail of the property by suffering a recovery in 1708, and resettled the estate upon his sister and her son Charles Fleetwood. His right to do so was disputed by Elizabeth daughter of Digby 5th Lord Gerard,[1] who had in 1698 become the second wife of James fourth Duke of Hamilton. The Duchess alleged that the two last Lords, being Roman Catholics, were disabled from holding landed property by a statute of James I. But the House of Lords decided against her in 1720, and the Fleetwoods eventually obtained the property. In Mrs. Fleetwood's lifetime they raised £51,000 upon it: and after her death, which took place at Liege in 1736, her son Charles charged it still further. In 1740 the mortgagees foreclosed, the amount certified to be due to them being £69,723. 1. 6¾. Nevertheless the fifth, sixth, seventh, and eight Dukes of Hamilton still claimed the property. In 1779 Hugo Meynell, the then owner of Tyrley Castle and most of the Gerard Estates, paid the 8th Duke £5,000 to surrender his pretentions.

Heleigh Castle afterwards became Boughey property, having (as I suppose) been bought by George Boughey about 1763, [2]from Hugo Meynell.

At any rate, in that year Mr. Boughey took counsel's opinion upon the validity of Mr. Meynell's title; and he selected our old friend Counsellor Randle Wilbraham[3] of Rode as his adviser.

The case and opinion are as follows:

Query, whether the Recovery suffered by Lord Philip in 1708 and the sale to Protestants in consequence of it for a full consideration (viz:—)£69,723. has not brought the Defendant Meynell within the intent and true meaning of the well-known Act of 3rd George[4] for the aid and protection of Protestant Purchasers and effectually defeated the Title of the Duke of Hamilton?

OPINION.

I have considered this case with as much attention as I am able, and as it rests on many points—'tis no wonder that Doubts should arise in every Man's mind who maturely considers it. But upon considering the Reasonings in Mr. Booth's opinion, which I think are very accurate and well Digested, I can't but concur with him, that the Recovery suffered by Lord Philip were strictly good in Point of Law. And as the reasons upon which this opinion is Grounded are fully and accurately stated (as is above said). I can't add anything thereto to give any further material Hints or Lights to this Case so as to give any assistance to the Gentlemen to whose Lot it shall fall to argue it upon the Tryal.

I can only observe that if the Legislature did Intend Totally to Divert the Course of Descents and of Settlements, by Disabling Persons bred in foreign Seminaries to take any sort of Right to the Freehold or Inheritance of Estates, 'tis strange that it did not fix or vest them in some other Objects and not leave them in Nubibus; for they must either be in Abeyance, which is attended with so many legal Inconveniences that the Law Declares that abeyance is not suffered but in cases of necessity, Hob: 58, Jons 73, 1 Wms. 505, 54, 525; or it must vest in some other Person. And if the Legislature had intended to make these Estates Desultory, the Law would have so

1. Digby 5th Lord Gerard died in 1684.
2. This George Boughey was the last of his family. He died in 1788, and left his property to my grandmother's brother John Fenton Fletcher, afterwards Sir John Fenton Boughey. See Chapter VIII.
3. See Chapter VIII.
4. 3rd George I., c. 18. Another relieving Act was passed in 18th George III.

expressed its Intent, and specified the Persons in whom the Freehold in this Case ought to vest upon the Disability of those who are by these Acts of Parliament rendered incapable. The Act of Jas. the first was an hard Law. It was punishing the Sins of the Father upon the Children, for the sending a child of Tender years to a Foreign Seminary was not the Moral Act of the Child but of the Parent, for one of the Child's first Impressions is the Authority of a Parent, so that a Child by his Dutyfullness to his Parent is Punished. But Possibly the Legislature thought that if they laid the Disability on the Child the Parent would not be so Cruel and unnatural as to force him by his Authority to forfeit his Patrimony. This is certain, that this Act is a law so Severe and Penal that it ought I think to have a strict and rigid Construction.

If the Statutes of 1st James 1st and of 11 and 12 of Wm. the 3rd are conceived in the same Terms, and the one related to Papists affected by a Particular mode of Education, and the other Extended the Disability and affected all Papists therewith, if it is clear that the latter Act Does not Intirely prevent the Freehold from Devolving upon a Papist so as to Disable him to suffer a Recovery, 'tis hard to say, that the former Act conceived in the same Terms should create such a Disability, but the latter not. And upon the Act of King William the present Chancellor[1] about Three Terms ago in the case of Salkeld, which came before him upon a Plea of a Common Recovery by a Papist, would not suffer his Capacity to take it to be argued, and indeed the Attorney General gave up the Point.

I am apprehensive, That upon the long Enjoyment and acquiescence that there has been in this case, as the Question is now between Protestant and Protestant, and as a verdict for the Plaintiff would be attended with Fatal consequences to the Devisee of a Purchaser for a Valuable Consideration, who ought to have the same favour that his Father was Intitled to, and as he purchased under the sanction of as good Opinions as were Extant at that time, though this is a mere legal Question, Yet these Circumstances will I think have some Influence upon the minds both of the Court and Jury.

October 11th 1763.

R. WILBRAHAM.

APPENDIX F. ii.

TENANTS OF THE FARMS AND MILLS ON THE PEATSWOOD PROPERTY.

1.—Tyrley Castle.

William Collye 1553, buried 5th September 1566. (Court rolls and register.)
Roger Collye 1587 (Partition deed of the Manor).
Noah Walton 1678. (Court roll at Tunstall.)
John Pegg 1706. (Tunstall Abstract.)
Richard Mellor, 1759.
Jarvis Etches (Court roll 1765, 1768, 1771).
Thomas Eley 1780 and 1791 and (Court roll) 1792, 1794.
Thomas Wheelock 1808-1830.
Walter Minor 1830 (he died before 1867).
Emma Minor widow died 1876.
Henry Randle Wilkinson 1877, died 1907.

1. Lord Henley, afterwards Earl of Northington.

2.—Upper Castle Farm.

Jonathan Madders 1777 (in Court roll at Tunstall.)
Joseph Barker 1791-1817.
Richard Smith 1817-1860.
Thomas Heath 1860-1878.
Thomas Heath junr, 1878-81.
Thomas Mulliner 1881-1894.
(Land exchanged with old Springs 1890.)
(Land near Four alls added 1893.)
John B. Vernon 1894-97.
Percy Willis March 1897.

3.—Old Paper Mill at Peatswood.

Geoffrey Cartwright Fuller 1587. Rowland Davison, of Drayton, Glover, presented for not scouring the Colebrook above the Paper Mill 1684, but he need not have held the mill.

James Shepperd 1759 and 1780.
Thomas Eley 1791.
Edward Charles 1795.
Lease for 21 years, rent £21.
1816. Lease for 12 years, rent £72 10s. 0d.
This last lease included the Cawdry Hey (or Hayes) and a cottage.
Mrs. Charles followed him till 1834, and then
Mrs. Morgan had it till 1847.
The rent was reduced to £63, and then to £42.
The mill was done away with in 1847.
Samuel Roberts, tenant of Cawdry[1] Hey, 1848. He and his son held it till 1888. Then T. M. Whiston, who in 1899 took Broomhall Grange, and put the two holdings together.

4.—The Tern Mill.

Dec 1790. The then new erected fulling mill was let by Thomas Dicken to Edward Lee of Drayton, Skynner, for 21 years, rent £1 ground rent of Mill, and £2 for rent of Croft.
1808. G. Butter, tenant.
Nov. 1815. Thos. Twemlow let this Mill to Jonathan Clinton of Eccleshall, Skinner, for 9 years, rent £14.
1826. Alexander Thompson had it as tenant at will, rent £20.
1846. Poole had it for £15 a year.
1848. Wm. Rawcliffe had it for 7 years as a bone mill, for £20 a year.
1849. This lease cancelled, and W. Saxton took it for 7 years, at £23 a year.
1857. J. T. Newton had a 7 years' lease at £25.
1858. David Walter Jenkins, tenant.
1859. Henry Bruckshaw lease for 7 years, rent £28 10s.
1865. New House built and rent raised to £45.
1867. Richard Pearce took a lease for 14 years at £45.
1881. Lease renewed for 7 years, £45 rent.
1888. New lease for 14 years at £55 (the house was then enlarged).
1902-5. Yearly tenancy.
1905. New lease for 7 years from Ladyday, rent £55.

5.—Broomhall Grange.

When purchased was in the occupation of Thomas Hulse. He left in March 1899, and T. M. Whiston took the farm, and added to it the Old Paper Mill holding, which he already had.
Whiston left in March 1904, and was succeeded by William Heath.

1. See note p. 168.

APPENDIX G. i.

LETTER FROM Mr. JOHN CRADOCK OF BETLEY TO Mr. BIRTLES, LADY MAINWARING'S STEWARD. DATED 2nd JULY 1741.

Sir,

Your saying before Messrs. Wicksted, Steel, Whitaker, Birchall, and myself that my grandfather was born in a cottage on Ashley Heath much surprised me, for I believe not one of his name or family ever lived upon or had the least interest in anything there. You might (like an old woman) have said "Every one knows where thy grandfather was born," without asserting a particular so easy to be disproved, and you might with as much truth have said Lady Mainwaring died in a cottage on Ashley Heath, for the house wherein he was born was a better house than that wherein she died (except the new built part)[1] and stood not far from it at about an equal distance from Ashley Heath. I suppose what you said was to reproach the memory of a very good man born about 114[2] years since, and to give offence to me and to Mr. Birchall, whose mother was his sister and born in the same house. But pray did you never hear of a child born in a place unfitter for its birth than a cottage? But your assertion (which hath no colour of foundation to support it) hath put me on enquiring into the Audley parish Register and some family deeds made in the reign of Queen Elizabeth and other evidence. I find that the first John Cradock that lived in Halmerend[3] had an elder brother named Edward and four sisters. This John married Frances the only child of John Parker of Halmerend, and this John Cradock had a small estate of inheritance purchased by his father in 1563, and by a settlement made in 1590 an estate of inheritance in Willaston and Bradley in this county, being together of the yearly value of £60 or thereabout (which was a better provision than some Baronets' younger sons have at this time). And he had with his wife leases for lives in Halmerend and Leicet, what yearly value they were then of I do not know, but new leases being taken and the reversion of part thereof purchased, the whole came to me, and I have set the same at £115 10s. a year.

After the death of Parker and his wife this John Cradock had their personal estate, which I have heard was very considerable. This John was my great great grandfather, and he had by the said Frances one child only which was my great grandfather and Mr. Birchall's mother's father, and his name was John. And it appears by the said register that she was buried at Audley in September 1604, and on the same day her child is registered to be baptized at Audley. Then John the father married a second wife from Leek, her name at baptism was Joan[4] (what her other name before baptism was I know not). He had by her one son named Edward baptized at Audley 1612 and four daughters, this Joan (one of the daughters of Eve) tempted her husband to sell his lands in Willaston and Bradley that he might the better provide for her and her children, and then he purchased lands in and about Leek, and framed an half timbered house in Halmerend, carried it to Leek and erected it there (which is now the Green Dragon) and caused these letters and figures to be cut in timber over one of the outer doors viz. I: C: 1613. So that my great grandfather had but a small estate of inheritance from his father, but he had all that came by his mother. There is an inscription upon a stone in the north aisle of Audley Church in these words and figures viz. "Here lie the bodyes of John Cradock and Frances his late wife. Frances dyed 24th September 1604 and John the 20th December 1618." My great grandfather was an infant when his father died, and soon after he died his widow and her children carried off all they could wrap and ring[5] and lived in or about Leek. In 1625 my great grandfather was married at Audley to Anne one of the daughters of Randle

1. Diana Lady Mainwaring married secondly Thomas Wetenhall. She died 2nd May 1737, aged 34, but where I do not know. She was buried at Nantwich. Ormerod, I., 484.
2. He was born 1626.
3. John suppresses the fact that this ancestor came from Ashley.
4. Her name was Bloore or Blore. There were a great many Bloores at Knoll and elsewhere in Audley parish and neighbourhood, who are traced by Kelsall, but I do not find this woman amongst them. Kelsall did not know her name; but it appears in John Cradock's Will, he left a legacy to Margery Bloore, his mother-in-law. William Bloore, of Knoll, b. 1554, d. 1633, is one of the executors, so probably he was related to Joan. He had no daughter of that name, according to Kelsall.
5. Should not this word be "wring"?

Whitehall of Bignall Hill, and they had issue my grandfather baptized at Audley 24 December 1626, (it was a long way at that time of year to have brought him from Ashley Heath to be baptized), and nine other children. My great grandfather died intestate in 1644 and was buried at Audley. And in 1645 my grandfather built a good house and outbuildings in Halmerend for his own habitation, and left his mother and some of his sisters to live in the house wherein he was born. And in 1648 his mother sisters and he in a fair and dutiful manner divided the personal estate of my great grandfather. Three of the children died unmarried, and seven of them were comfortably provided for and disposed of in marriage. So that I have shown you that parchment stone and timber bear witness against your assertion.

John Birchall knows what you said to be false, and Roger Whittaker does not believe it to be true. But should you not undeceive T. Steel and Wicksted, lest they should say as you have said, without any other authority than Birtles' report? But your impertinent question "How did your grandfather get what he had?" is not yet fully answered. If his mother had kept an alecote he might have had many fathers, and got what he had that way. If he had wed his lord's concubine he might have got a lease of something else that way, but he did neither, for in 1649[1] he married Margaret one of the daughters of Thomas Lovatt in Audley and had no inconsiderable portion with her, and Lovatt had a fair estate of inheritance, the bulk of which he gave to his brothers and their sons, but settled some part thereof upon my grandfather and bestowed many valuable gifts upon him in his life time, and when Lovatt died he made my grandfather one of his executors and residuary legatees, and his personal estate was appraised at £1891 18s. 5d. Then Richard the younger brother of Thomas Lovatt died[2] and gave his estate of inheritance to such of his as should marry a Lovatt, and he made my father one of his executors and residuary legatees, and his personal estate was approved at £808 9s. 3d. And I compute that this marriage of my grandfather's brought into the family about £1500. And I never heard that there lived in the parish of Audley or elsewhere better wives, mothers, housekeepers, or neighbours of their estates than my grandmother and great grandmother were.

My grandfather died in 1705 and lies buried in the north aisle of Audley Church, and with truth and justice it is cut upon his stone that no man was superior to him in charity or sincerity. His children's children and their children (to this time) taste of, and praise God and him for the product of his righteousness and economy.

When have you seen the righteous man and his seed begging their bread?

I have oft heard him devoutly pray to God for a blessing on him and his, and if thou art pure and upright surely God will make the habitation of thy righteousness prosperous. Satan grudged when God had blessed the work of Job's hands, and that his substance was increased in the land.

Some men advance fables (without morals) and repeat them until they believe them themselves though nobody else does, but few take pride in belying the dead. Too many children can swear and lie as soon as they can speak.

Now Sir pray let me ask you if you have not regard enough for your own reputation to be ashamed of being the author and publisher of such a falsehood spoke of so good a man. He lived about 78 years in the world, and I never heard that any man ever laid an unjust or even an unfair thing to his charge. It is great pleasure to me to hear a man (that knew him) speak of him. I glory more in being the grandson of this good man than if I had been the grandson of a scandalous lord. I am the fifth John Cradock that hath lived at Halmerend, descended in a direct line, and I find by the enquiry you have prompted me to that all of us have married our wives out of gentlemen's families that lived, and great part of their estates lay, within little more than one mile from Halmerend, some of them had at least 4 or £500 a year in estates of inheritance.

I am Sir,

Your humble servant,

Betley 2nd July 1741. JOHN CRADOCK.

N.B.—Richard Cradock (uncle to the first John Cradock that lived at Halmerend) lived at Longnor in the parish of Lapley on that side of the county of Stafford that lies near Newport.

(Extracts from the Ashley Parish registers were enclosed.)

1. 14th February 1649-50. (Kelsall.)
2. 3rd August 1690.

APPENDIX G. ii.

ABSTRACT OF THE WILL OF WILLIAM CRADOCK OF HUNGERSHEATH THE ELDER.

Wyllyam Cradocke of Hongerheth the elder.

Will dated 22nd December 1543. Inventory dated 16th March 1545. Will proved 18th May 1545.

To be buried in the parish church of Ashley.

To the mother Church of Lichfield three shillings and fourpence.

For reparation of Ashley Church three shillings and fourpence.

To Sir[1] Ralph Hales if he sing in Ashley Church at the time of my death 3/4.

Agnes my wife to have all live stock and cattle and the increase thereof as were hers at the time of our espousal and marriage, and all such household stuff as she brought to me.

Residue to be divided between my cousins William Cradocke, Robert Cradocke, Thomas Cradocke and Agnes Cradocke their sister.

EXECUTORS. Sir[1] Thomas Cradocke vicar of Oullnam[2] (?) Richard Broughton of Broughton, Esquire, Humfrey Vyse[3] gentleman, William Cradocke my son.

OVERSEER. Sir Richard Aston[4] parson of Ashley.

WITNESSES. Roger Bromley, John Blakelow, Crystofer Sutton.

APPRAISERS. Roger Bromley,[5] John Blakelow, Roger Goodale, Henry Schortt.

Debts owing to Son William, parish Church of Ashley 3/4, parish Church of Maer, 3/4, to a priest to pray for my soul 3/4.

INVENTORY. inter alia, 5 silver spoons 5/- apiece. 5 pairs of sheets 8/- apiece.

APPENDIX H.

LETHIEULLIER FAMILY.

There is a manuscript book at Breamore giving the history of this family long before any member of it migrated into England.

Presumably Agnew had access to this work and obtained his facts from it. We learn from him that Pierre Le Thieullier was born in 1466 and married Agnes Couillet. Their son was Jan le Thieullier and married Jeanne Mesureur. Their son was the martyr Jan, who married Catherine Godin. The martyr's son married Jeanne Trappe of Tournay, and had a son Jan born 1591, who came to England with his widowed mother in 1605. (She had married a second husband named Jan de Weez and become a second time a widow at that time.) Jan called himself John and lived at Great Ilford in Essex. His wife was Jane daughter of John de la Forterie and of Anne de Francqueville; and they had 10 children. Some of these were born abroad, as the family returned

1. The clergy were often called "Sir," instead of "Mr.," at this time. It is a translation of the Latin word "Dominus."
2. This word is very indistinct, and I cannot guess what place is meant.
3. The Vyse family lived at Walford in Standon parish.
4. The Aston family, of Aston in Cheshire, owned two-thirds of the manor of Ashley. Erdeswick's Staffs., Edited by Harwood, 1844 Edn., p. 116.
5. The Bromley family owned Gerard's Bromley. From them it passed to the Gerards.

to the continent during the civil war. On returning to England John Lethieullier settled at Lewisham. He died 2nd November 1679 aged 88; and his widow died in 1693 aged 82.

Amongst his elder sons were John, Christopher, and Samuel. John was born in 1633. Pepys mentions him and his wife in his diary, the latter being described as "our noble, fat, brave lady in our parish that my wife and I admire so." John was knighted in 1674.

From him was descended Mary the heiress, who married Edward Hulse in 1769. Christopher prospered, and was knighted in 1689. He had a son, also Christopher, who was a Director of the Bank of England, and died in 1736. Samuel was born in Amsterdam in 1643, and died a bachelor in 1710, worth £100,000.

William Lethieullier, the father of Mary Tooke, was born 2nd December 1646. He had a twin brother named Abraham, who hanged himself 21st June 1705, "being melancholly," as a contemporary writer expresses it. William married Mary daughter of Henry Powell, a London merchant who lived at Clapham.[1] They had eleven children, seven of whom, two sons and five daughters, were living in 1728, viz. Mary, John, Sarah, Anne, Elizabeth, Martha, and William.[2]

On the tomb at Clapham are the arms of Lethieullier impaling Powell.

In Burke's general armory the arms of Lethieullier are given as Argent, a chevron gules between three parrots' heads couped vert beaked of the second. Those of Powell are sable three roses argent seeded or.

In the Harleian Society's publications Vol. viii. (year 1873 "Le Neve's Knights"), the arms of Latuiliere are given as Argent a chevron b (azure) between three seamews' heads. Crest a like seamew. Quære the colours.

APPENDIX I.

EARL STERNDALE AND THE FLETCHER FAMILY.

It has been said in Chapter VIII that Thomas Fletcher (born 1717, died 1783), the father of Sir Thomas, came to Newcastle from Earl Sterndale before 1740. When the Fletcher pedigree was recorded at the Herald's College at the end of the 18th century, it was taken back two steps beyond this Thomas. It was known that his father and mother were Thomas Fletcher, and Lydia daughter of Robert Mellor of Alsop-in-le-dale, Derbyshire, who were married at Hartington 7th December 1714; and that his paternal grand parents were William Fletcher and Anne Rouse, who were married at Hartington 5th November 1693.

Thomas must have been a very young bridegroom in 1714, not much more than 19 years old; and he could not have been much more than 36 when he died in 1731. His will was dated 13th December 1731, shortly before his death; but it was not proved till 16th May 1735. Probate was taken out in the local registry of the Deanery of Hartington, but the will is now at Lichfield, whither all the wills found in the Church chest at Hartington have been removed. It shows that Thomas and Lydia had two sons William and Thomas and two daughters Elizabeth and Anne. William, the elder son, succeeded to his father's lands at Taddington and elsewhere, the Earl Sterndale property being left to the younger son Thomas.

The widow, Lydia married secondly George Heathcote of Buxton, and was living, again a widow, in 1749.

1. They were not married at Clapham; nor were Edmund and Mary Tooke married there.
2. Tomb in the old Churchyard at Clapham. It will be found, surrounded by handsome ironwork, to the south-west of St. Paul's Church, near the public footpath.

We now go back to William and Anne, the grand parents. William died in August 1714, and his will was proved at Hartington on 2nd November following. From this it appears that William, like his son Thomas, had an elder son William, a second son Thomas, and two daughters Elizabeth and Anne. And he too left his Taddington property to his heir, and that at Earl Sterndale to his younger son Thomas.

The will of his widow Anne, proved 6th December 1723, is also to be seen. It gives the additional information that her daughter Anne married William Mellard, and had a daughter Mary.

This much is quite certain: but the genealogist who tries to go back beyond the marriage of William and Anne Fletcher is beset by difficulties. If he searches the Hartington registers for the entry of William Fletcher's baptism, he finds that, about the time when William would be born, there is a gap of six years in the baptismal register. If he tries for an earlier will than that of 1714, he will find nothing in the bundle of Hartington wills that will help him. Many must have perished. If he searches the general calendar of Derbyshire wills, he will find Fletchers galore, but none to the purpose. The Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher F.S.A., who has given the subject much attention, tells me that there were more Fletchers in Derbyshire than in any other county in England, possibly because archery was specially prevalent there. (The name is of course derived from the French "flechier," which means, "arrow-maker." and the High Peak Forest was noted for game.) I must confess then that, failing to find wills of Fletchers of Earl Sterndale, I have not explored those of people of the same patronymic who hailed from Darley, and Tissington, Moreton, and Somershall Herbert, Tideswell and many other Derbyshire villages.

Failing the church registers and the wills, there remain the Court rolls of the Manor of Hartington, and the title deeds at Aqualate. The former I was able to inspect through the kindness of Colonel Brooke Taylor, the present steward of the manor, and his brother. But the Court rolls are not continuous. They begin in 1622, and break off in 1627. At that time George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, lord high admiral of England, was lord of the manor. He was assassinated in 1628. From 1627 till 1664 there are no rolls. When they begin again, John Shallcrosse and Richard Shallcrosse Esquires were the lords. In 1676 that position was occupied by Edward Downes and Thomas Higgenbotham gents; and in 1708 the Duke of Devonshire owned the manor, as his successor does at the present time. From Queen Anne's reign onwards the record appears to be continuous, between 1664 and 1714 it was not so. With regard to the Fletchers of Earl Sterndale, they appear in the earliest rolls as copyhold tenants of the manor. John Fletcher the elder held a house and land in 1622, and in 1624 Thomas Fletcher bought land there from Robert Needham and Margaret his wife. In 1664 we meet with William Fletcher and Ellen his wife, and John Fletcher, their eldest son who had dealings with John Harrison[1] and Anne his wife; one of the fields mentioned being the "Hogg house field."

In 1678 William Fletcher and Dorothy his wife had various transactions by way of purchase or mortgage with John Harrison and Thomas his son and heir, into which the Hog house field again enters. A copy of the entry on the Court roll is amongst the Aqualate title deeds; so that obviously it relates to a portion of Sir George Boughey's property, and the Hog house field is to be found on the estate map at the present day.

It seems natural to suppose that the William Fletcher of 1664 was the father of the William Fletcher of 1678, and that he again was the father of the William Fletcher who married in 1693. But I have not found evidence to prove it.

It is also highly probable that John and Thomas Fletcher, who were living in the reign of James I. were remoter ancestors; but of this there is even less evidence.

The names of other Fletchers of Earl Sterndale occur in the Court Rolls and Wills. John Fletcher died in 1704.[2] He had three sons, William, Thomas and Robert. Thomas and Robert lived at Fernydale, and died bachelors and intestate in 1712 and 1714; William their brother was then alive.

Richard Fletcher, whose wife's name was Mary, had property at Earl Sterndale. His will was made in 1710 and proved in 1711;[3] and he left children. Richard bought land from William in 1674, and sold land to William and Anne in 1704.

1. A John Harrison married Elizabeth Fletcher in 1651.
2. Possibly he was the same John Fletcher whose name occurs in 1664.
3. He was buried at Hartington 5th July 1710.

A document at Aqualate shows that in 1671 Francis Fletcher bought land from the Robinsons of Taddington. I have not found his name elsewhere; nor do I know whether this was the Taddington property which is devised by the wills above mentioned. Another Aqualate document records that in 1672 William Fletcher of Earl Sterndale bought land from the Robinsons. In 1676 a William Fletcher bought a field at Earl Sterndale called the "Underhill field" from Ralph Sterndale, as appears from the Court Rolls at Bakewell. William Fletcher who died in 1714 left to his son Thomas a field in Earl Sterndale called the "Little Oare Leas," which he had bought from Ralph Sterndale. Probably this does not refer to the transaction of 1676; if it did, it would imply that William Fletcher who was buying land in 1676-8 was the same man who married in 1693 and died in 1714, and not his father. Mr. Rhodes Ashworth, the present Vicar of Hartington, kindly allowed Mr. Nelson Richardson, a schoolfellow of mine at Winchester, to search the registers, and make extracts from them. Mr. Richardson is an expert antiquary, and his help has been most valuable. His extracts from the registers are subjoined.

With regard to the Village of Earl Sterndale, it lies about four or five miles from Hartington, and the same distance from Buxton, in a somewhat bare limestone region. The river Dove which flows near it, forms the boundary between Derbyshire and Staffordshire. The village of Longnor, in the latter County, is about two miles distant.

There is a chapel at Earl Sterndale, which was rebuilt in 1828. William Fletcher, who died in 1714, was buried at Hartington; but his son Thomas, who died in 1731, was buried at Earl Sterndale. So perhaps the original chapel was built in the interval: I have made enquiry, but have not been able to ascertain whether this was so or not. The registers do not go back beyond 1768.

The property at Earl Sterndale at present belonging to Sir George Boughey amounts to about 367 acres, of which 350 are copyhold, and the remainder (part of which is on the Staffordshire side of the Dove) freehold.

There are three good farms, and an Inn called the "Quiet Woman;" on the sign board of which is a picture of a woman without a head. The houses are built of stone, and for the most part roofed with stone slabs. But Staffordshire blue tiles have been used there in modern times. The architecture does not appear to be interesting.

Extracts from the Hartington Registers made by Mr. Nelson M. Richardson, President of the Dorsetshire Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club, August 1909.

Registrum Tripartid. Hartingtoniæ cum membris quarum prima est baptizatorum secunda matrimonia.....conjunctorum tertia vero sepultarum incipiens anno octavo Jacobi Regis Angliæ, (&c.)

Anno Domini 1610.

Also Registrum.....incipiens 1669, and Registrum.....incipiens 1693.

BAPTISMS.

1617. Marcii 26. Bapt. Johannis Filii Thomae Fletcher husbandman et Elizabethæ ux: eius de Earlstearnedale.
1633. Aprilis 23. Bapt Williami filii Johannis Fletcher husbandman et Elizabethæ ux: eius de Earlstearnedale.
1640. May 9. Bapt. Richardi Filii Johannis Fletcher de Stearnedale.
1640. Novembr. 7. Bapt. Tho. Filii Johannis Fletcher jun. de Stearnedale.
1647. Sept. 24. Bapt. Roberti Filii Johannis Fletcher Junioris de Eadem—(Sternedale.)
1651. May 25. Bapt. Helenæ Filiæ Johannis Fletcher de Sterndale.

1691. July 5. (B) Maria Filia Ricardi et Mariæ Fletcher baptizat. fuit 5to die Juli 1691.
1700. Mar. 30. Baptism Ricardi Fletcher Fil. Ricardi Fletcher de Earl Sterndale et uxoris ejus.
1701. Jan. 1. Baptism Ricardi Filii Rich. Fletcher et Mariæ ux. ejus de Earle's Sterndale. (NOTE. "Filii Rich." and "Mariæ" have, like several other names in the baptisms of this year, been inserted afterwards in different ink.)
1706. (Aug.?) 9. Bapt. Jonæ fil Wilhelmi Fletcher de Sterndale.
1710. Junii 4th. Bapt. Eliz. filiæ Gul. Fletcher et Saræ ux. ejus de Earlsterndale.

Registrum.....Hartingtoniae.....

1610.....1715.

MARRIAGES.

1612. Decembr. 1. Matrimonium inter Brianum Rogers et Elizabetham Fletcher istius paroch.
1624. Maii 5. Matrimonium inter Nicholaum Fletcher de Bradburne paroch de Bradburne et Agnetam Belfeild istius paroch.
1647. Maii 16. Matr. inter Thomam Fletcher de parochia Tiddeswall et Anna Rogers istius parochiæ.
1651. Maii 15. Matr. intr. Johannem Harrison et Elizabetham Fletcher parochianos.

1672. Jan 1. m. Richardus Flecher et Eme Orme matrim. conjuncti fuere primo die (Januar.) 1672.
1690. Junii 9. m. Ricardus Fletcher et Maria Sleigh matrim. conjuncti fuere 9 die Junii 1690.

1693. Novem. 5. Matrimon. inter Gulielmum Fletcher et Annam Rouse de Sterndale.
1711. Julii 25th. Matrimon. inter Gulielm. Alsope et Mariam Fletcher utrumque eorum de Earlsterndale.
1714. Decem. 7mo. Nat. inter Thomam Fletcher de Earlsterndale et Lydiam Mellor de Alsope-in-le-Dale.

Registrum.....Hartingtoniæ.....1610—1715.

BURIALS.

1613. Julii 19. Sepult. Agnetis uxor. Johannis Fletcher de Earlstearnedale.
1614. Dec. 5. Sepult. Thomae Fletcher senr. de eodem loco. (Earlsterndale.)
1616. Aug. 11. Sepult. Margeriæ uxor. Johannis Fletcher de Earlstearnedale.
1621. Julii 1. Sep. Johannis Fletcher vidui senr. de Earlstearndale.
1629. Junii 19. Sep. Thomæ Fletcher de Earlstearndale.
1629. eodemdie. Sep. Williami Fletcher fratis prefat. Thomæ eod. die.
1647. Dec. 27. Sepult. Williami filii Johannis Fletcher (Junior.) de Sterndale.
1649. Aug. 12. Sepult. Johannis Fletcher de Sterndale yeom.
1650. Ap. 14. Sepult Thomæ filii Johannis Fletcher de Sterndale.
1651. Junii 17. Sepult Elizabethæ (no word of relationship, uxoris. filiæ, or viduæ,) Johannis Fletcher de Sterndale.
1675. Ap. 18. Daniel Flecher sepultus fuit 18 die April 1675.

1694. Aug. 2. (or 24.) Sepult. (Franciscæ) Flettger de Earle Sterndale.
1702. Octob. 21. Sepult. Ricardi Fletcher Fil. Ricardi Fletcher de Earl Sterndale et uxoris ejus.
1710. Julii 5. Sepult Richardi Fletcher de Earlsterndale.
1712. Mar. 2do. Sepult Roberti Fletcher de Ferny (Protham) ? Botham.
1714. Ap. 10 mo. Sepult. Tho. Fletcher de Ferny Dale prope Sterndale.
1714. Aug. 6. Sepult. Gulielmi Fletcher de Earlsterndale.

APPENDIX K.

THE BOUGHEY FAMILY OF AUDLEY Co. STAFFORD.

The name has been spelt in many ways, Boghay, Bowghe, and Boffey, are a few of them. As to its origin and meaning I have found nothing. In 1388 James de Boghay married Elizabeth daughter and co-heir of John de Whitmore, and held Whitmore, Bucknall, and Biddulph in right of his wife. This property was held by his descendants for six generations, and in 1545 Alice Boughey an heiress, married Edward Mainwaring, and brought the estates into that family. An account of the Bougheys of Whitmore will be found in the Collections of the William Salt Society Vol. XII. new series (1909) pages 196-201.

Ward in his history of Stoke-on-Trent, p. 318, says that in 1401 John Boghay Esq. was one of the principal men at Newcastle-under-Lyme, which shows that there were other Boghays in North Staffordshire besides these of Whitmore at that early date.

Kelsall, in his M.S. genealogies, p. 83, says that it is thought that the Bougheys of Knoll (in Audley) and others may be derived from the Bougheys of Whitmore. But he does not bring forward any evidence of it.

Rev. F. P. Parker of the William Salt Society, the Editor of the paper above mentioned, says in a footnote (p. 197) that Hugh Boghay, living 9 Hen. VIII. (1518) is thought to be the ancestor of the Bougheys of Audley. This Hugh was the great, great, great grandson of James and Elizabeth. Mr. Parker does not give his authority, but it seems evident that, if there is a link between the two families, it must be looked for some generations further back.

For the following reasons :—

1. There is at Aqualate a copy of Court Roll dated 23 Hen. VII. (1508), which shows that at that time Richard Boughey held a house and 15 acres of copyhold land at Audley.

2. Kelsall's genealogies show that before the middle of the 16th century there were certainly four Bougheys heads of families settled in Audley, viz. Richard Boughey of the Knoll, Hugh Boughey of Knowlend, George Boughey of Ravenslane and Richard Boughey of Shraley and the Wall.

3. The wills at Lichfield tell the same tale. John Boughey who died in 1535, Thomas who died in 1537, William who died in 1546, and George who died 1555, were all of Audley. All these men had sons, and John and George had also brothers living when they made their wills. There was also at this time a family of Bougheys at Barthomley, the next Parish to Audley. Clearly, this widely ramified clan could not have been derived from a common ancestor who lived in the reign of Henry VIII.

The Audley Bougheys were for generations in touch with London. John Boughey (son of John and Margaret Boughey of the Wall) was settled there in 1591 : Samuel (of the Knoll), born in 1629, had property in the parish of St. Paul's, Covent Garden in 1676, George and John (of Ravenslane), born shortly after 1640, lived and died there; Thomas Boughey died there in 1682, and George (son of Richard and Katherine Boughey of the Wall), born about 1645, practised as an attorney there, and died in 1711. George Boughey of the Inner Temple (who died there in 1788, the last of his family) owned property in St. Paul's Covent Garden, and his brother Thomas was an apothecary in Ivy Lane near St. Paul's Cathedral. This is probably by no means an exhaustive list, and it shows that the family kept up a continuous connection with the metropolis for two centuries.

To return to Kelsall's four families of Bougheys :—

1. That of the Knoll in Audley Parish. The Knoll must not be confused with Knowl End or Knowlbank, which are quite distinct places. Mr. Rupert Simms tells me that, in his belief, the interesting old timber house in Audley Village, standing between the Nantwich road and Wilbraham's walk, about a furlong W.N.W. of the Church, and now converted into cottages, is the old home of the Bougheys of the Knoll. Very likely that is so, but I have not found any evidence to support Mr. Simm's opinion.

Richard Boughey, who lived at the Knoll in 1544, left numerous descendants. According to Kelsall, his great grandson sold some of his land, and what he did not sell was redeemed by his son Samuel, who lived and died in London. The latter gave it to the children of his sister Mary Wilkinson apparently by his will of 1676.[1] This seems to have ended the connection of the Bougheys with the Knoll. Samuel Boughey had another sister, Alice, born in 1637, who married Daniel Fenton of Cheddleton. Daniel and Alice were the parents of John Fenton of Newcastle, who married Jane Hippisley, and whose daughter Elizabeth was the mother of Sir Thomas Fletcher.

2. The Bougheys of Knowlend. Knowlend is about a mile and a half to the west of Audley Church, near Milldale. Hugh Boughey of this place, and his wife, Margaret, had several children born before 1550, including three sons, but they seem to have died childless, and Knowlend went to Hugh's daughter Joan born in 1547, who in 1579 married Ralph Bayley of Biddulph. The Bayleys were still in possession of Knowlend when Kelsall wrote, in Queen Anne's reign.

3. The Bougheys of Ravenslane. Ravenslane is to the North East of Audley Church, near the Railway Station. Kelsall says that George Boughey of Ravenslane married Elizabeth Smith of Jefferen's Hays[2] in 1555, and had a son William. William had a son George, and also a daughter Margery, who married Perkin Wilbraham and died a widow in 1687 and was buried at Sandbach. Who Perkin Wilbraham was I have been unable to discover. Margery's brother George, who died in 1688, inherited the Ravensdale property and his son Samuel sold it.

It is possible that the George Boughey who married in 1555 was the son of George Boughey who died in 1554, and whose will is at Lichfield. This testator's wife Ellen survived him, and he had a son and heir George, two other sons Thomas and Philip, and a brother named John. Besides his property at Audley, which is not particularly described, he had land at Little Sucknell, and a share of Sucknell Hall. Sucknell appears to be Sugnall, a place about two miles from Eccleshall.

4. The Bougheys of the Wall and Shraley. The Wall is about a quarter of a mile west of Audley Church, on the Nantwich Road. The existing farm house was built by the father of the present Sir George Boughey in 1850. But the Dove cote and the malt kiln of the older house remain, and also some old trees. Shraley is about a mile from the Wall, in the direction of Betley. Kelsall begins the history of this branch with Richard Boughey, who had two sons, John and William, the latter of whom was baptised in 1551. Possibly this Richard died in 1563, and was the man whose inventory, now at Lichfield, was made by John Boughey and others 10th August in that year. He may have been the son of William Boughey of Audley whose will was proved in 1547, who had a son Richard. This William may have been the son of John Boughey, whose will was proved in 1535. and who had three sons, Richard, William and Randle, and also a brother William. But this is uncertain, and it must not be forgotten that there was a Richard Boughey of the Knoll who was contemporary with Richard Boughey of the Wall and Shraley. Even Kelsall confessed that he could not always disentangle the two families.

Passing from Richard to his son John, we learn from Kelsall that the latter married a woman named Margery, who was buried at Audley 24th June 1591. This woman's proper name seems to have been Margaret, and her will was proved at Lichfield 23rd August 1591. John her husband had died before her, she had an eldest son, Richard, two younger sons, John living in London, and Randle, and three daughters, Elizabeth Aston, Ellen Weaverham, and Joan wife of John Parrott of Crewe (see Parrott pedigree). The eldest son Richard married Margaret Piggott, at Audley, 7th October 1583; and had a son John baptised 25th July 1585. Richard was buried 6th September 1598, and his will is at Lichfield. His widow Margaret survived till March 1614.

John the son married Anne daughter of Thomas Knight, at Barthomley, 28th November 1603. They had four sons and five daughters, Richard, John, William, Thomas and Margaret, Ellen, Anne, Elizabeth and Frances.

1. I have not found this Will at Somerset House.
2. The farm which lies between Shraley and Balterley Hall.

The eldest son Richard Boughey, baptised 27th October 1611, married 29th December 1630, at Barthomley, Katherine daughter of Thomas Lovatt of Eardley End. Their children were John, baptised 8th January 1632, Richard, baptised 24th August 1634, Thomas, baptised 26th December 1636 (who died young), Joseph, baptised 7th April 1639 (died unmarried 1675), William, born about Candlemas 1644, George (an attorney in London, who died a bachelor in 1711), and Sarah, baptised 16th May 1641, who died in 1656. Katherine the mother was buried 8th December 1675, and Richard the father 27th December 1682.[1] John, the elder son, married Mary Jervis of Chatcull; but they only had a daughter Sarah, born 1663, died 1677. After this, John left the Wall, of which he had control, to his younger brother William. He would have left Shraley also to William, but dying November 1682, before his father, was unable to do so.

The second son Richard[2] had two sons, Richard baptised 5th January 1665, and John baptised 13th August 1669 and a daughter Katherine. Of these two sons Richard the elder seems to have been weak and foolish. He was impeached for coin clipping, but apparently not convicted. He was however, while the charge was hanging over him, persuaded to hand over his landed property to a man named Edward Vernon, by a deed dated 5th September, 1694.[3]

After the death of Richard, the younger brother John went to law with Vernon, to recover the property, which consisted of two farms, a water cornmill, a cottage and divers other lands, valued at £50 a year. The suit was unsuccessful; but if I am not mistaken, the property in question was Shraley and Boughey's mill; and it has found its way back to the Boughey family. The papers relating to the suit of Boughey v. Vernon are at Aqualate.

John Boughey, the plaintiff in the action, married Sarah daughter of Colton Lathome of Grober's Ash, near Silverdale; and appears to have lived on his wife's property. It seems that he had no surviving children,[4] and left such property as he had, including five silver spoons marked R. & K.B. (Richard and Katherine Boughey) to his cousins the sons of George Boughey and Elizabeth Cradock. He died in 1740.

To return to the sons of Richard Boughey and Katherine Lovatt; of these, five have been accounted for, viz.: John, Richard, Thomas, Joseph, and George, the youngest. The fifth son, William remains.

It has been said that he was born about Candlemas 1644. He settled in Newcastle, and married Sarah daughter of Matthew Rock of that place. Both he and his father-in-law were mercers, perhaps they were partners. The marriage articles are dated 31st January, and Sarah's dowry was duly accounted for on 28th April 1673. In 1682, on the death of his father and elder brother John, he succeeded to the Wall at Audley. He became an alderman of Newcastle, and was mayor in 1681. He and his wife had several children who died young, and a son and heir George, and a younger son, John, who died a bachelor 5th June 1708.

William Boughey died 15th February 1701, and his widow Sarah 27th January 1730. George, their eldest son, was baptised 22nd August 1684, and married 7th January 1709 Elizabeth, daughter of John Cradock of Halmerend, and sister of John Cradock of Betley.[5] There were four sons of this marriage, John born 10th October 1709, George born 16th December 1711, William born 24th September 1714, and Thomas born 30th August 1717. George, the father, was buried 16th April 1718; and his widow Elizabeth died 17th August 1751. None of the sons married. John was articled to his uncle John Cradock for six years from 2nd February 1730, and afterwards practised in Newcastle. He died 1st November 1750. William was a clergyman at Birmingham, where he died in January 1748. Thomas was an apothecary in Ivy Lane, City of London, and he too died in 1748.

1. His will, dated 20th July 1682, and proved 23rd March 1683, is at Aqualate.
2. He lived at Newcastle, and married first Usula Bagnall, the mother of his children. She died in 1675. In 1678 he married a second wife named Jane, but he had no more children. His will is at Lichfield.
3. The Vernons of Church Stile were an old Audley family, and had intermarried with the Bougheys of the Wall.
4. He had a son Samuel, born in 1699, who predeceased him in 1729.
5. In his Will, he is described as of Audley. So presumably he lived at the Wall.

From 1750 till his death in 1788 George Boughey of the Inner Temple was the last survivor of his family. He seems to have been a good and thoroughly trustworthy lawyer, and also a sympathetic soul. Many of his confidential letters have been preserved at Aqualate, and show that his relatives and clients were wont to bring their troubles to him. There are many letters addressed to him by his first cousin Anastasia Fenton, giving her version of Betley affairs; and others from her brother-in-law Charles Tollet, describing the same events as they appeared to the occupants of the house at the other end of the village George no doubt had a good practice in London, and he succeeded to most of the family property from his brothers and cousins; so that he died rich. He took great pains over his will, and made several drafts before he was able to satisfy himself. As finally settled, it bears date 1st January 1788, and was proved on 21st February following, the testator having died 15th February.

His heir-at-law was Mary Ann wife of John Buxton Esq., whose relationship I have not been able to trace. She was no doubt his nearest relation on his father's side. Subject, however, to sundry legacies to friends and dependents, charities, &c.; he left everything to his cousins on his mother's side.

His first cousins Anastasia Fenton and Catherine Tollett, surviving children of his uncle John Cradock, were given a life interest in his Staffordshire estates. (Anastasia died in 1797, and Catherine in 1807.) After their deaths the estates were to go to Anastasia's grandson John Fenton Fletcher, then a boy of four years old. There were what the lawyers call "Divers remainders over" in case the boy's issue should fail; but that event did not happen, so we need not trouble about them.

A sum of £20,000 was to accumulate until the boy came of age and then to be invested in land for him; and the testator's residuary personalty was also to be invested in land for his benefit.

The property in Wiltshire, which the testator had lately purchased of Peter Delme[1] Esq., was to go to the boy immediately, without any prior life interests; and the London property was to be sold and the proceeds invested in land in the country.

Whoever succeeded to the estates had to take the name and use the arms of Boughey as borne by the testator.

This coat—sable, three bucks heads or—had been granted to the Bougheys of Colton,[2] a junior branch of the Whitmore family.

In due time, in 1805, John Fenton Fletcher came of age, assumed the name of Boughey instead of Fletcher, quartered the Boughey arms (with a difference in the tinctures), and became the Squire of Aqualate, which had been purchased with the funds that had accumulated during his long minority.

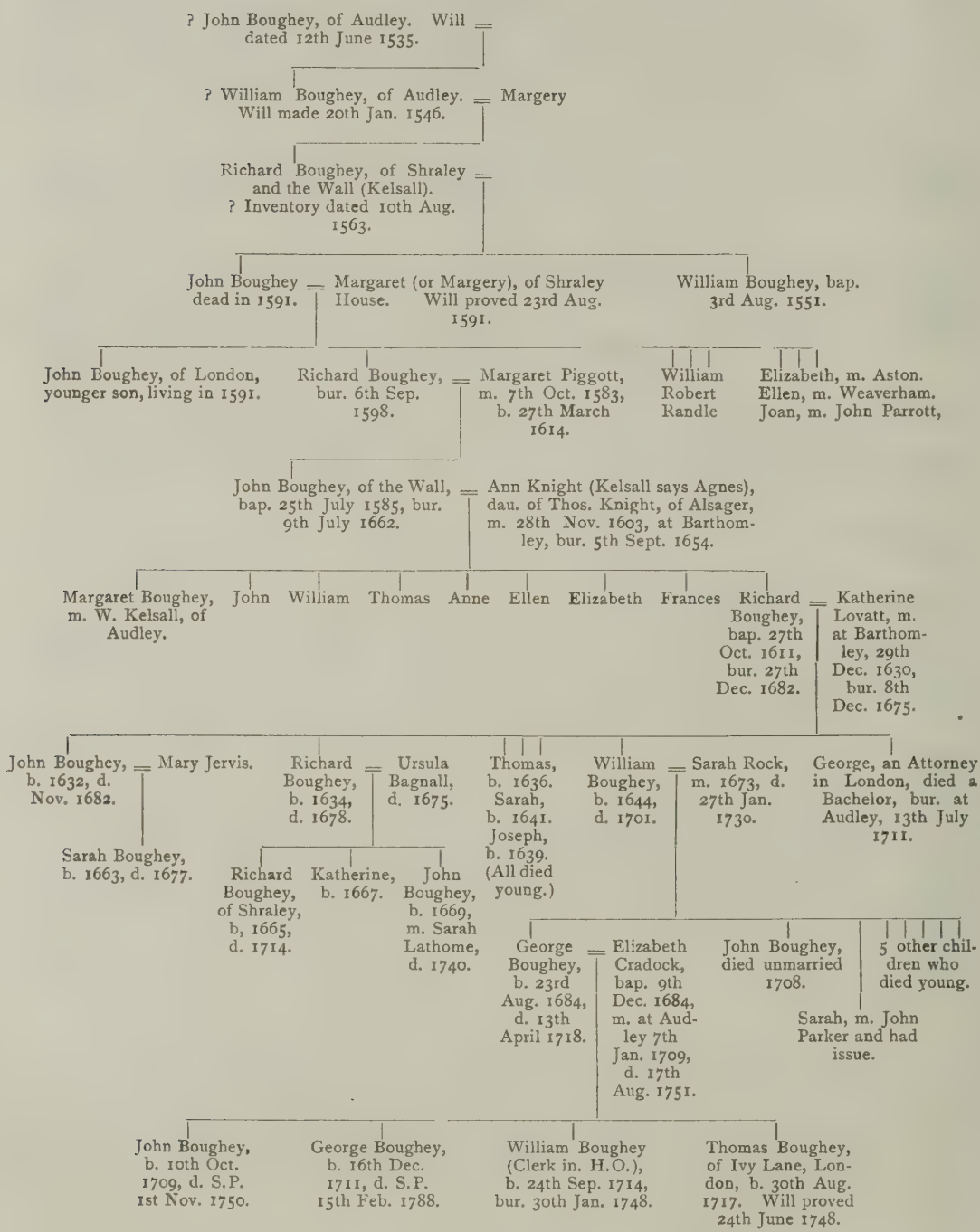
Two pedigrees are appended showing the various descents of the Bougheys of Shraley and Wall, and of the Knoll.

1. The Delmes were City magnates. A Peter Delme, perhaps this same man, lent money to Charles Fleetwood, heir of the Gerard family, in 1740.
2. The pedigree in the volume of the Salt Collections, already referred to, says that the Bougheys of Colton were descended from Humphrey Boughey, uncle of the heiress Alice who married Edward Mainwaring.

PEDIGREE OF THE BOUGHEYS,

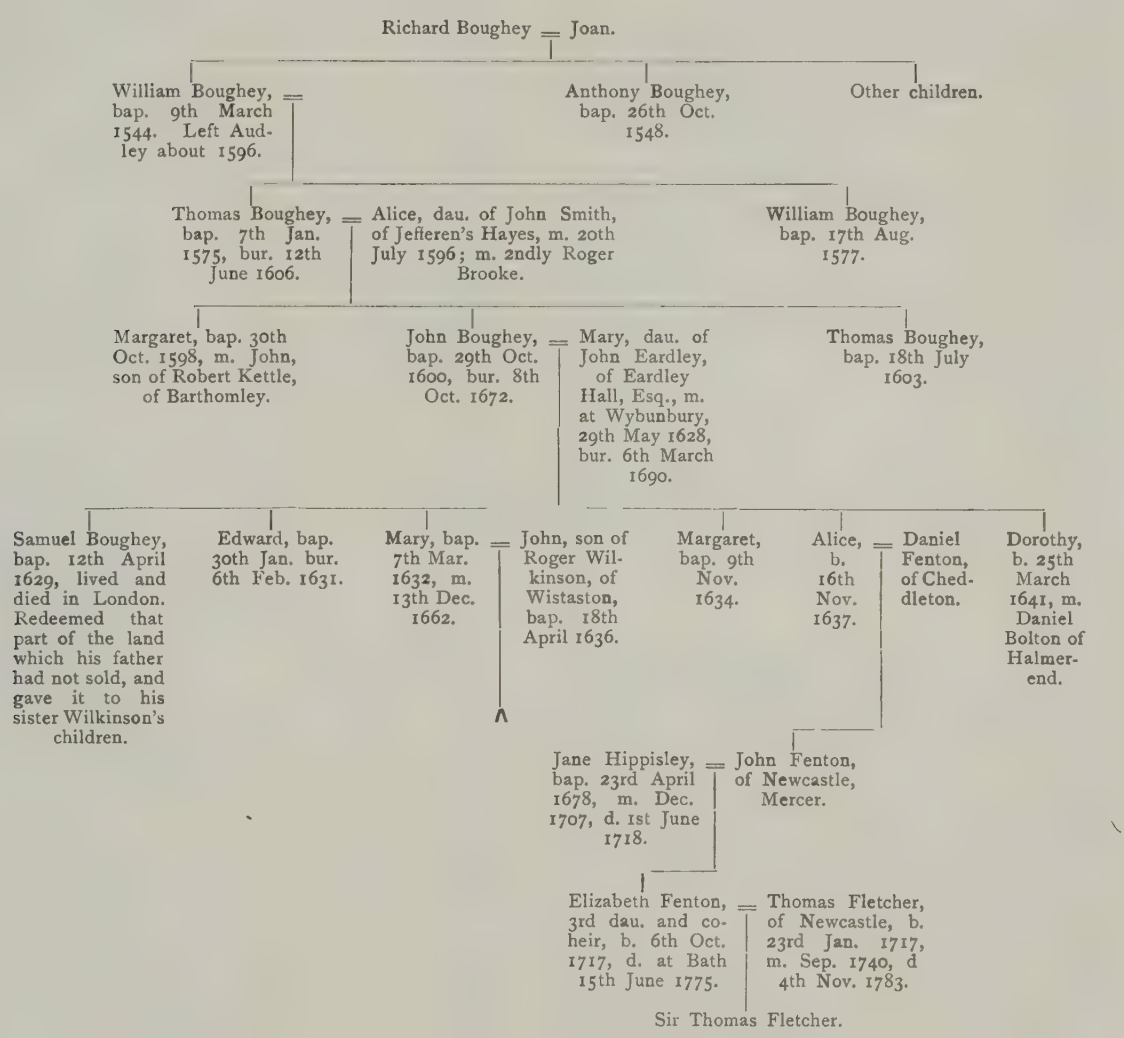
OF THE WALL AND SHRALEY, PARISH OF AUDLEY, Co. STAFFORD.

DRAWN BY FRAS. R. TWEMLOW, AUGUST 1909.


? John Boughey, of Audley. Will dated 12th June 1535.
? William Boughey, of Audley. Will made 20th Jan. 1546.
Margery
Richard Boughey, of Shraley and the Wall (Kelsall). ? Inventory dated 10th Aug. 1563.
John Boughey dead in 1591.
Margaret (or Margery), of Shraley House. Will proved 23rd Aug. 1591.
William Boughey, bap. 3rd Aug. 1551.
John Boughey, of London, younger son, living in 1591.
Richard Boughey, bur. 6th Sep. 1598.
Margaret Piggott, m. 7th Oct. 1583, b. 27th March 1614.
William Robert Randle
Elizabeth, m. Aston. Ellen, m. Weaverham. Joan, m. John Parrott,
John Boughey, of the Wall, bap. 25th July 1585, bur. 9th July 1662.
Ann Knight (Kelsall says Agnes), dau. of Thos. Knight, of Alsager, m. 28th Nov. 1603, at Barthomley, bur. 5th Sept. 1654.
Margaret Boughey, m. W. Kelsall, of Audley.
John
William
Thomas
Anne
Ellen
Elizabeth
Frances
Richard Boughey, bap. 27th Oct. 1611, bur. 27th Dec. 1682.
Katherine Lovatt, m. at Barthomley, 29th Dec. 1630, bur. 8th Dec. 1675.
John Boughey, b. 1632, d. Nov. 1682.
Mary Jervis.
Sarah Boughey, b. 1663, d. 1677.
Richard Boughey, b. 1634, d. 1678.
Ursula Bagnall, d. 1675.
Richard Boughey, of Shraley, b, 1665, d. 1714.
Katherine, b. 1667.
John Boughey, b. 1669, m. Sarah Lathome, d. 1740.
Thomas, b. 1636.
Sarah, b. 1641.
Joseph, b. 1639. (All died young.)
William Boughey, b. 1644, d. 1701.
Sarah Rock, m. 1673, d. 27th Jan. 1730.
George, an Attorney in London, died a Bachelor, bur. at Audley, 13th July 1711.
George Boughey, b. 23rd Aug. 1684, d. 13th April 1718.
Elizabeth Cradock, bap. 9th Dec. 1684, m. at Audley 7th Jan. 1709, d. 17th Aug. 1751.
John Boughey, died unmarried 1708.
5 other children who died young.
Sarah, m. John Parker and had issue.
John Boughey, b. 10th Oct. 1709, d. S.P. 1st Nov. 1750.
George Boughey, b. 16th Dec. 1711, d. S.P. 15th Feb. 1788.
William Boughey (Clerk in. H.O.), b. 24th Sep. 1714, bur. 30th Jan. 1748.
Thomas Boughey, of Ivy Lane, London, b. 30th Aug. 1717. Will proved 24th June 1748.

PEDIGREE OF BOUGHEY,

OF THE KNOLL, AUDLEY, Co. STAFFORD, FROM KELSALL.


Richard Boughey = Joan.
William Boughey, bap. 9th March 1544. Left Audley about 1596.
Anthony Boughey, bap. 26th Oct. 1548.
Other children.
Thomas Boughey, bap. 7th Jan. 1575, bur. 12th June 1606.
Alice, dau. of John Smith, of Jefferen's Hayes, m. 20th July 1596; m. 2ndly Roger Brooke.
William Boughey, bap. 17th Aug. 1577.
Margaret, bap. 30th Oct. 1598, m. John, son of Robert Kettle, of Barthomley.
John Boughey, bap. 29th Oct. 1600, bur. 8th Oct. 1672.
Mary, dau. of John Eardley, of Eardley Hall, Esq., m. at Wybunbury, 29th May 1628, bur. 6th March 1690.
Thomas Boughey, bap. 18th July 1603.
Samuel Boughey, bap. 12th April 1629, lived and died in London. Redeemed that part of the land which his father had not sold, and gave it to his sister Wilkinson's children.
Edward, bap. 30th Jan. bur. 6th Feb. 1631.
Mary, bap. 7th Mar. 1632, m. 13th Dec. 1662.
John, son of Roger Wilkinson, of Wistaston, bap. 18th April 1636.
Margaret, bap. 9th Nov. 1634.
Alice, b. 16th Nov. 1637.
Daniel Fenton, of Chedleton.
Dorothy, b. 25th March 1641, m. Daniel Bolton of Halmerend.
Jane Hippisley, bap. 23rd April 1678, m. Dec. 1707, d. 1st June 1718.
John Fenton, of Newcastle, Mercer.
Elizabeth Fenton, 3rd dau. and coheir, b. 6th Oct. 1717, d. at Bath 15th June 1775.
Thomas Fletcher, of Newcastle, b. 23rd Jan. 1717, m. Sep. 1740, d 4th Nov. 1783.
Sir Thomas Fletcher.

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